

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1328744-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 24

Page 39 ~ Duplicate - dupe to 159-HQ-4005 serial 1;  
Page 40 ~ Duplicate - dupe to 159-HQ-4005 serial 1 page 2;  
Page 55 ~ b7D;  
Page 56 ~ b7D;  
Page 57 ~ b7D;  
Page 58 ~ b7D;  
Page 59 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;  
Page 60 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;  
Page 61 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;  
Page 72 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;  
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Page 314 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;  
Page 333 ~ Duplicate - dupe to page 304;  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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11/21/74

TO: SAC, Oklahoma City

From: Director, FBI

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED);  
LMRDA; OOJ

Enclosed are copies of self-explanatory memorandum from Criminal Division of Department dated 11/20/74, together with copies of its attachments, which requests preliminary investigation.

Prosecutive aspects should be discussed with USA. Bureau should be kept currently advised of pertinent developments by appropriate means.

Surep promptly.

Enclosures (6)

JRA:maw

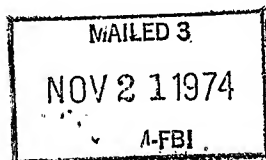
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by Letter Dated 5-10-76  
Per FOIA Request

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MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

Nov 22 9 40 AM '74

F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE




UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: November 20, 1974

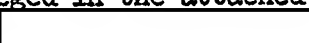
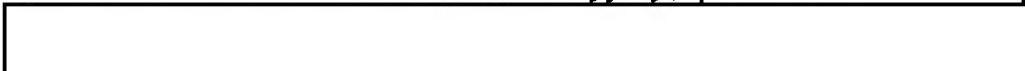
FROM :   
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

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b7C

HEP:JML:emc  
123-017-60

SUBJECT: Death of Ms. Karen G. Silkwood


*KAREN Silkwood*

It is hereby requested that the Bureau conduct a preliminary investigation into the matters alleged in the attached New York Times article of November 19, 1974   


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These allegations, if substantiated, may constitute violations of Section 530, Title 29, United States Code (through the impairment of Ms. Silkwood's rights guaranteed by Section 411, Title 29, United States Code) and Section 1505, Title 18, United States Code (in that Ms. Silkwood was a witness in a pending investigation before the Atomic Energy Commission.)

Attachments

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by Letter Dated 3-10-76, 3-10-76  
For FOIPA Request AK, Silkwood

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EXP. PROC.  
NOV 21 1974

EX 103  
REC-12  
MCT-16  
159-4  
CH 59  
NOV 21 1974  
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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
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ACCT'G  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

# Death of Plutonium Worker Questioned by Union Official

By DAVID BURNHAM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—A high-ranking union official said today that the death last week of a woman who had raised critical safety questions about one of the two commercial plutonium factories in the United States might not have been an accident.

The official sent telegrams calling on the Justice Department and the Atomic Energy Commission to begin an immediate investigation into the death of Karen G. Silkwood, who died last Wednesday when her car crashed into a culvert a few miles south of Crescent, Okla.

The crash was described as an accident by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. State officials are making a routine investigation into whether alcohol or drugs were a factor in the crash. Neither the Justice Department, the A.E.C. nor Oklahoma officials had any immediate comment tonight on the union official's telegram.

In his telegram to Attorney General William B. Saxbe, Anthony Mazzocchi, Washington representative of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union, said an investigator hired by the union had found evidence "to suggest that Miss Silkwood's car was hit from behind by another vehicle causing it to leave the road and hit the concrete culvert." He said he was not accusing any specific person of a crime.

## Union Has Car

Mr. Mazzocchi told the Attorney General that the union had the car, its investigative report of the crash and other data in its possession and would make them available to both the Justice Department and the A.E.C.

He said that the union had decided to make the evidence available to the Justice department and the A.E.C. rather than state officials because "the problems were of such great seriousness that it required the Federal presence."

Miss Silkwood, who worked in the Cimarron facility of the Kerr-McGee Corporation near Crescent, was on her way to a meeting with an official of the union and a reporter for The New York Times to discuss safety conditions at the plant. Two weeks ago, she was exposed to a large amount of radiation in an accident at the plant that the A.E.C. is still investigating.

At a meeting with the commission in Washington on Sept. 27, Miss Silkwood and two of her colleagues from the Cimarron plant charged that officials there had endangered the lives of the workers.

At approximately the same time, the three technicians provided the union with additional allegations that the facility was manufacturing some faulty fuel rods and that inspection documents required for these rods had been falsified.

The union tape-recorded these allegations at the time they were made. Recent conversations with other technicians, who asked that inspection records had been falsified.

## Responsible to A.E.C.

Informed of the statement of the union, D. A. McGee, board chairman and chief executive officer of Kerr-McGee, said that because Miss Silkwood's death was still under investigation, it would not be appropriate to comment on it.

"Regarding allegations of falsification of records," he added, "we are fully responsible to the A.E.C. and other regulatory agencies for both quality control and safety and our records are continuously audited."

The Cimarron facility, protected by a tall chain-link fence on a low hill four miles south of Crescent, manufactures plutonium fuel rods that will be used in an experimental, liquid metal, fast breeder reac-



Karen G. Silkwood, who died in a car crash last week in Oklahoma.

159-15-1  
ENCLOSURE

tor being constructed for the A.E.C. near Richland, Wash. The experimental reactor, which is being built under a \$420-million contract, is scheduled to be completed in 1977 and to be in operation in 1978. It is intended to test a new generation of reactors that Atomic Energy Commission hopes will provide the United States with increasing amounts of electric power.

There are varying estimates about the potential danger should the allegations of workers about faulty fuel rods be true. Dr. Ralph Lapp, many years a leading power expert, said that, as a hypothetical situation, he did not believe faulty rods were much of a problem.

"Should any problem cause a leak it would be spotted and the rod would be removed," he explained.

Dr. Henry Kendall, a leading nuclear critic and physics professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, disagreed.

"These failures could start off an accident which would result in the release of huge amounts of radioactivity," he said.

#### No Explanation

The day after Miss Silkwood's white 1973 Honda smashed into the culvert on the left side of the straight road, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol issued a report describing the accident but not offering any explanation for it. The accident, which occurred about 7:30 P.M., was investigated by State Trooper Rick Fagan. Miss Silkwood was buried yesterday in Kilgore, Tex.

Because of the incident in the factory where she was exposed to a large amount of radiation, the A.E.C. is conducting a special autopsy on her organs.

In his telegram to Sarbe, Mr. Mazzocchi said that Miss Silkwood, at the time of her death, "was on her way to meet Mr. Steven Woditz, legislative assistant to the O.C.A.W., and David Burnham, a reporter for The New York Times, who were waiting for her in the Holiday Inn, W. in Oklahoma City, Okla."

"Miss Silkwood," Mr. Mazzocchi continued, "was bringing information concerning alleged falsification of records concerning quality of nuclear fuel elements being manufactured at the Cameron facility." He said: "We are in posses-

sion at this time of sufficient evidence that we believe would lead credibility to Miss Silkwood's allegations."

Mr. Mazzocchi said that on being informed of Miss Silkwood's death, he obtained the permission of A. F. Grospron, president of the union, to hire a private investigator who had expertise in examining car crashes to determine the cause of her death.

The investigator hired is Mr. A. O. Pipkin Jr. of Accident Reconstruction Lab of Dallas, Tex," he said. "He conducted his investigation on Saturday, Nov. 16, 1974. I spoke with him this morning and he has told me there is evidence to suggest that Miss Silkwood's car was hit from behind by another vehicle, causing her car to leave the road and hit the concrete culvert."

#### 2,000 Accidents

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Pipkin said he based his conclusion about the probable cause of the accident on a small dent on the left rear bumper of Miss Silkwood's car and the configuration of the skid marks on the grassy left bank of the highway just before she dipped into the small stream bed and struck the culvert.

Mr. Pipkin did highway investigations for the Albuquerque, N. M., Police Department between 1951 and 1955 before establishing his own firm. He has investigated more than 2,000 accidents and testified in more than 300 court trials, frequently for insurance companies.

He said that because of the dents and the skid marks, "it was highly probable that the car was acted upon by an external force, that the crash was the result of Miss Silkwood's car being struck by another vehicle."

"I recognize the full gravity of my suspicions and urge your immediate attention to this matter," he concluded. In response to a question, he said: "I am not accusing any particular person with murder. Based on an independent investigation, however, it is apparent that someone forced Karen Silkwood from the road, thereby causing her death. I'll leave it to the Federal authorities to determine who and why."

Miss Silkwood had been a leader in a recent battle to have Local No. 5-283 of the O.C.A.W.

continue representing workers in the plant. The union won the battle by a vote of 80 to 61 on Oct. 16.

In her meeting with the A.E.C. on Sept. 27, according to the commission's summary of the session, Miss Silkwood and her companions charged that the facility had failed to educate and train workers properly in the handling of plutonium, long regarded as an extremely toxic substance. They also charged that the company had failed to keep exposures of plutonium as low as possible, to adequately monitor workers' exposure and take the required hygienic precautions.

One specific allegation they made was that the company had gradually reduced training from five days to two four-hour sessions during the last two years.

JASUP

G08 19:53:20 11/13/74

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NOV 19 1974

MANAGEMENT & LABOR SEC.

G14 19:53:46 11/13/74

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001 WASHINGTON DC NOV 13 1974

PMS THE HON. WILLIAM B. SAXBE

ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

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I HEREBY REQUEST ON BEHALF OF MY ORGANIZATION AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF KAREN SILKWOOD, AN OFFICIAL OF LOCAL NO. 5-283 OF THE OIL, CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO.

KAREN SILKWOOD WAS KILLED ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1974 AT APPROXIMATELY 7:30 P.M. WHEN HER AUTOMOBILE LEFT THE ROAD AND SUBSEQUENTLY HIT A CONCRETE CULVERT SOUTH OF CRESCENT, OKLAHOMA ON ROUTE 74.

MS. SILKWOOD WAS ON HER WAY TO MEET [REDACTED]

AND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHO WERE WAITING FOR HER IN THE HOLIDAY INN N.W. IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

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MS. SILKWOOD WAS BRINGING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ALLEGED FALSIFICATION OF RECORDS CONCERNING QUALITY CONTROL OF NUCLEAR FUEL ELEMENTS BEING MANUFACTURED AT THE CIMARROW FACILITY OF KERR-MCGEE NUCLEAR CORP IN CRESENT, OKLAHOMA WHERE SHE WAS EMPLOYED. MY OFFICE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MS. SILKWOOD EVER SINCE HER APPEARANCE IN MY OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1974. SHE WAS PART OF A 3-PERSON UNION COMMITTEE WHO WERE SENT BY THEIR LOCAL UNION TO WASHINGTON TO PRESENT THEIR COMPLAINT TO THE ATOMIC ENERGY COM-

MISSION ABOUT THE PROBLEMS CONCERNING WORKERS HEALTH AND SAFETY AT THE CIMARROW FACILITY OF KERR-MCGEE.

AT THAT TIME MS. SILKWOOD DESCRIBED SOME OF THE ALLEGED QUALITY CONTROL FALSIFICATIONS. I INSTRUCTED HER TO CAREFULLY DOCUMENT THE PROBLEM SO THAT WE COULD PRESENT A CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED CASE TO THE A.E.C.

WE ARE IN POSSESSION AT THIS TIME OF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT WE BELIEVE WOULD LEND CREDIBILITY TO MS. SILKWOOD'S ALLEGATIONS.

ON BEING TOLD OF MS. SILKWOOD'S DEATH, I CONSULTED WITH [REDACTED]

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TO HIRE A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WHO HAD EXPERTISE IN EXAMINING CAR CRASHES IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF HER DEATH.

THE INVESTIGATOR HIRED IS [REDACTED] OF ACCIDENT RE-CONSTRUCTION LAB OF DALLAS, TEXAS. HE CONDUCTED HIS INVESTIGATION ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1974. I SPOKE TO HIM THIS MORNING AND HE HAS TOLD ME THERE IS EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT MS. SILKWOOD'S CAR WAS HIT FROM BEHIND BY ANOTHER VEHICLE CAUSING HER CAR TO LEAVE THE ROAD AND HIT THE CONCRETE CULVERT.

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WE ARE IN POSSESSION OF HER CAR AND IT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU. WE ARE ALSO IN POSSESSION OF TAPE RECORDINGS, RECORDS AND OTHER DATA RELEVANT TO THIS CASE. I HAVE ALSO NOTIFIED [REDACTED]

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR FIELD OPERATIONS, DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION AND HAVE REQUESTED A FULL INVESTIGATION INTO MS. SILKWOOD'S ALLEGATIONS.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - REL. INFO~~

I RECOGNIZE THE FULL GRAVITY OF MY SUSPICIONS AND URGE YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER.

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b7c

[REDACTED]  
OIL, CHEMICAL & ATOMIC WORKERS INT'L UNION  
1125 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

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NOV 19 1974  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

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014 20:04:13 11/18/74

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11/25/74

TO: SAC, Oklahoma City

REC-111

From: Director, FBI

UNSUBS; <sup>(6)</sup>  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED);  
LMRDA; OOJ

ReBuairtel to Oklahoma City 11/21/74.

[redacted] b6  
b7C  
of the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, contacted FBIHQ and advised that it was his understanding that the FBI had been requested to investigate the death of Karen G. Silkwood who was killed in an automobile mishap in Oklahoma. He said that news accounts of this matter indicated that a labor union official, one [redacted] has alleged that Silkwood's automobile was forced off the road into a bridge abutment and further stated that she was en route to a meeting with a New York Times reporter and implied her death was to prevent her talking with the reporter. [redacted] b6  
[redacted] stated that in September, 1974, testimony was taken from [redacted] by the Joint Committee which he believes might well be pertinent to any investigation being conducted by the FBI concerning Silkwood's death and [redacted] allegations. He relates he would be pleased to make this testimony available to the FBI and stated he could be contacted at telephone number [redacted] b7C  
(Washington, D. C.) to make necessary arrangements.

If review of this testimony appears desirable, Oklahoma City should furnish sufficient background information to WFO to enable them to conduct this review.

ELR:mav

(4X) [initials]

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by Letter Dated 3-16-76, 5-10-76 Sent  
Per FOIPA Request Re K. Silkwood

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NOV 25 1974

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Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Asst. Dir.:  
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Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

[REDACTED]

DATE: 11-22-74

FROM :

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
KAREN SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LMRDA, OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
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[REDACTED] Executive Director of the [REDACTED] staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, contacted Inspector [REDACTED] on the morning of 11-21-74 and stated he understood that the FBI has been requested to investigate the death of Karen Silkwood who was killed in an automobile mishap near Cimarron, Oklahoma. He said news accounts of this matter indicated that a labor union official, [REDACTED] has alleged that Silkwood's car was forced off the road into a bridge abutment. He said this union official also alleged that she was en route to a meeting with a New York Times reporter and implied her death was to prevent her talking with this reporter. [REDACTED] said the Joint Committee had taken testimony from [REDACTED] in 1967 which he believes might well be pertinent to any investigation we would be conducting concerning Silkwood's death and [REDACTED]. He said he would be pleased to make this testimony available to our Agents handling this investigation. He asked that he be contacted if the review of this testimony is desired at telephone number [REDACTED] to make the necessary arrangements.

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## RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to General Investigative Division.

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by Letter Dated 5-10-76 kmb  
Per FOIPA Request AC K. Silkwood

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- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Bowers

DWB:dkg (7)

dkg

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11/25/74, ERK/...  
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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
DIVISION

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

DES.

NOV 26 9 57 AM 1974

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Gebhardt

DATE: 11/21/74

FROM : R. E. Long

1- Mr. Gebhardt  
1- Mr. Adams  
1- Mr. McDermott  
1- Mr. Wannall

SUBJECT: UNSUBS  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND  
DISCLOSURE ACT; OBSTRUCTION  
OF JUSTICE

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b7C

Captioned individual was an employee at Kerr McGee Corporation, manufacturer of plutonium at Crescent, Oklahoma (20 miles north of Oklahoma City), and a member of Atomic Workers union at the time she was killed when her automobile crashed at 7:30 p.m. 11/13/74. We have been informed that, since this individual was reportedly engaged in union business and was considered a witness at hearings before Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the Criminal Division of the Department has drafted a request for us to conduct preliminary inquiry in order that Criminal Division can determine whether possible Federal violations are indicated. Memorandum from Criminal Division had not yet been received by a.m. of 11/21/74.

Captioned individual had previously testified before hearing of AEC relative to alleged unsafe conditions and falsification of inspection reports submitted to AEC concerning faulty production procedures. She was one of three on a committee appointed by the union to obtain information regarding these matters and furnishing it to the union.

Although Oklahoma Highway Patrol found no indication of foul play regarding fatal accident of this individual, union obtained professional accident investigator who reportedly concluded her car had been purposely bumped and ran off the road which resulted in her death.

The union directed telegram to the Department requesting investigation because captioned individual was allegedly on her way to meet a legislative assistant of the union, as well as a reporter for the "New York Times" at the time of her fatal accident.

JRA:maw

(5)

CONTINUED - OVER

YRFOX

DF 4 1974

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by Letter Dated 3-16-76 Per  
FOIPA Request

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Nov 21 8 45 AM '74

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5710

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Nov 21 9 43 AM '74

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5710

Long to Gebhardt Memo

Oklahoma City Office has been maintaining liaison with security officer at the foregoing corporation and AEC representatives since 11/7/74, when it was reported captioned individual was determined to be contaminated by plutonium produced by the corporation. Several tests have been made by AEC to determine how she became contaminated but no conclusion had been reached at the time of her death 11/13/74, which was the day she had returned from her medical examination by AEC. Oklahoma City is continuing to maintain liaison with view to ascertaining whether there may be some possible violation under the Atomic Energy Act, which pertains to theft or other irregularities concerning nuclear material.

Preliminary inquiry as to possible Labor Law or Obstruction of Justice violation will be instituted as soon as memorandum has been approved by Criminal Division of Department and received by the Bureau.

ACTION: This is for information.

REG

JRA

Jma

rel  
WAF

npc  
Jma

3

F B I

Date: 11/27/74

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45)(P)

RE: UNSUBS; *Q*  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

*dw2* Re Bureau airtels to Oklahoma City, 11/21/74 and 11/25/74.

For information of recipient offices, the Bureau by re airtel, 11/21/74, forwarded Departmental memorandum dated 11/20/74 which requested the Bureau conduct investigation into matters alleged in a New York Times article, 11/19/74, and in a telegram of [redacted] [redacted] b6 b7C

The Department noted the allegations if substantiated may constitute violation Title 29, Section 530, U. S. Code (through impairment of SILKWOOD's (union) rights and Section 1505, Title *EX-110* U. S. Code) in that SILKWOOD was a witness in a pending investigation before the AEC.

For the further information of recipients, *REC 17 157-4005-4* SILKWOOD was an employee of the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Nuclear Products Division facility at Crescent, Oklahoma, which facility is in part a plutonium (Pu) fuel plant. SILKWOOD was employed as an analyst in the Pu fuel plant and worked with radioactive material, primarily Pu.

On 11/5/74, it was learned that SILKWOOD was contaminated with Pu. Checks made several days thereafter determined that SILKWOOD was again contaminated and it was

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(2) Bureau by Letter Dated *5-16-76, 5-16-76 Dir*  
2-Dallas Per FOIPA Request *Re K. Silkwood*  
2-WFO  
2-Oklahoma City  
LJO/sal

9 DEC 2 1974

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b7C

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION  
Dec 2 4 33 PM '74  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

OC 159-45

learned the apartment in which she resided was also contaminated. SILKWOOD's roommate, a KMC employee, was contaminated too.

SILKWOOD and her roommate were sent to AEC, Los Alamos, New Mexico, for medical checks 11/11/74 and 11/12/74. SILKWOOD on 11/13/74 was involved in a one car fatal accident which occurred south of Crescent, Oklahoma. Accident investigated by Oklahoma Highway Patrol who indicated no foul play involved; however, an independent accident investigator, [redacted], of Accident Reconstruction Lab, Dallas, Texas, who was hired by the OCAW speculated there was evidence to suggest that SILKWOOD's car was hit from behind by another vehicle causing her car to leave the road and hit a culvert. The union has alleged that accident possibly was an attempt to keep SILKWOOD from talking to a New York Times reporter and union officials about information that she had concerning allegations of unsafe practices at the Crescent facility.

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SILKWOOD had previously met with AEC representatives and union officials 9/27/74 in Washington, D. C. at which time she and other union representatives presented other allegations concerning safety and allegations concerning classification of fuel rod documents which rods were fabricated at the Crescent facility.

The Bureau by referenced 11/25/74 airtel advised that [redacted] Executive Director, Staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, had contacted FBI Headquarters re FBI investigation of captioned case. [redacted] stated in 9/74 testimony taken from one [redacted] by the Joint Committee might well be pertinent to any investigation conducted by the FBI re SILKWOOD's death and [redacted] allegations. He would make this testimony available if needed to be contacted at Washington, D. C., telephone number [redacted].

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For the information of the Bureau, it was learned through contact with KMC, Oklahoma City, that both AEC had received statements from a former KMC employee, [redacted] who presently [redacted] that he in an eleven-month period falsified fuel rod documents by altering photograph negatives to omit flaws or suspected flaws. [redacted] claimed he did this on own volition and no other persons involved. He claimed this was done to increase his production.

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LEADS

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS - Will locate [redacted] Accident Reconstruction Lab, and obtain full results of his investigation re SILKWOOD's accident.

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WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. - Will contact [redacted] Executive Director, Staff, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and obtain any pertinent info in his possession re captioned case.



Airtel

1 - Mr.  
1 - Mr.

b6  
b7C

To: SAC, Oklahoma City (117-47)

11/27/74

From: Director, FBI

UNSUBS; KAREN C. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND  
DISCLOSURE ACT; OBSTRUCTION  
OF JUSTICE

Reurtel 11/20/74.

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Bufiles do not reflect any information identifiable  
with [redacted], and Accident Reconstruction Laboratory  
based upon available information.

WWH:mjgr  
(5)

NOTE:

Above in response to Oklahoma City request for  
name check.

Deleted Copy Sent [redacted]  
by Letter Dated 5-10-76  
Per FOIPA Request 10-10-11-11-11-11

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REQ 107

159-4005-4X

FEB 5 1975

VEROX

DEC 1975

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

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FBI

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

117-2687 sub 7  
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2/5/75 Com RJ

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FBI

Date: 12/11/74

PHY.

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) (P)

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma CityQ1 - Paint from interview  
Q2 - Paint from fingerprint

PC-L 4261

Re Oklahoma City airtel to the Bureau, 11/27/74,  
and Bureau airtel to Oklahoma City, 11/21/74.Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is one film  
cassette container and one purple pill box. Enclosed  
for WFO is "New York Times" article of 11/19/74, and  
telegram of [REDACTED]b6  
b7CFor the information of the Bureau and WFO,  
Oklahoma City has conducted extensive investigation  
relative to captioned case in the immediate Oklahoma  
City area. Contact with local leaders and members of the  
Oil, Gas, and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW)  
in the Oklahoma City vicinity has failed to develop any  
person who has specific information or personal knowledge  
of allegations of possible violations under captioned  
characters.

SI 103

REC-33

159-4105-5

Contact with the deceased's boy friend has  
failed to develop any knowledge of specifics on his part  
as well.

DEC 14 1974

[REDACTED] when contacted on 12/3/74,  
would not submit to interview except under his conditions  
including tape recording of interview and/or having an  
attorney present based on instructions received from  
OCAW Legislative Assistant [REDACTED]

③ - Bureau (Enc. 2)

2 - WFO (Enc. 2)

2 - Oklahoma City

LJO:pwo (7)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

6 1975

COPY & SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB  
FOR LAB ACTION & REPORTDeleted copy sent  
by letter dated  
PER FOIPA REQUEST

Index Lab Files

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FBI LABORATORY  
DEC 16 10 24 AM '74

RECEIVED  
DEC 16 10 35 AM '74  
FBI LABORATORY

DEC 23 9 15 AM '74

RECEIVED

DEC 14 11 15 AM '74

FBI  
LABORATORY DIVISION

F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

DEC 18 @ 17 AM '74

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION

OC 159-45

On 12/4/74, after further checks with [redacted] submitted to interview without any restrictions whatsoever.

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It is noted that [redacted] was one of the two persons with whom the deceased was to meet on the evening of her death [redacted]

It is noted that the telegram over the name of [redacted] claims that the union is in possession of tape recordings, records, and other data relative to this case.

Accordingly, it is felt that contact with union officials, including [redacted] and [redacted] would be helpful and leads in this regard are being set forth below.

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Oklahoma City has a pending report in this matter in dictation setting forth results of investigation to date.

On the evening of 12/3/74, SA [redacted] at Oklahoma City examined the deceased's vehicle, a 1973 Honda Civic, 2-door sedan, white in color, VIN SBC1014541, bearing 1974 Oklahoma License YF 8261.

[redacted] stated that damage to left rear corner of car was damage believed by [redacted] Independent Accident Investigator hired by union, to be pertinent to [redacted] theory of possible foul play in connection with fatal accident. Visual inspection of damage failed to note any particles of paint either on dent or bumper other than white Honda paint. From interviews with wrecker personnel it was learned that car possibly received this damage when wrecker was removing car from culvert. The left rear quarter panel was at one time against wing wall of concrete bridge. It is noted that damage to the car was at a point some 13 to 15" off of ground level at a point below horizontal midline on Honda bumper.

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Film cassette container contains white paint samples from dent area and pill box contains minute quantity of [redacted] obtained from bumper. Samples were collected with hard steel tool.

OG 159-45

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

It is requested that the enclosed material be examined for paint particles and other evidence so that a determination can possibly be made whether or not deceased's car was struck from behind by another vehicle.

LEADS:

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will locate [redacted]  
[redacted] OCAW, and [redacted]  
[redacted] OCAW, 1126 16th Street, Northwest,  
Washington, D.C., and contact them for any pertinent  
information they may have in this case to support their  
allegations concerning violations in areas of captioned  
characters. [redacted] should be asked to specify nature and  
extent of documentary information believed to be in  
possession of deceased for her use in intended meeting  
with [redacted] and [redacted].

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ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU: 3 sets each of 5 photos of accident scene and 5 photos SILKWOOD's car.

OC 159-45

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: OKLAHOMA CITY

Rerep of SA [REDACTED], dated 12/13/74.

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b7C

159-4105-6

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	DATE <b>12/13/74</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>11/25-12/12/74</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS; KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	TYPED <b>jr</b>
CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>LMRDA; OOJ</b>			

REFERENCES: Bureau airtels to Oklahoma City, dated 11/21, 25, and 27/74.  
Oklahoma City teletype to the Bureau, dated 11/19/74.  
Oklahoma City airtels dated 11/27 and 12/11/74.

-P-

ES

TO THE BUREAU

Enclosed are three sets each of five photographs of the accident scene and five photographs of SILKWOOD's car.

Deleted Copy Sent   
by Letter Dated 12/13/74  
Per FOIPA Request 159-45

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b7C

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

- 3- Bureau (Enc. 30) ENCLOSURE  
2- USA, Oklahoma City (Enc. 10)  
1- WFO  
2- Oklahoma City (159-45)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

DEC 19 1974

Agency <b>1cc ROM CRIM. DIV</b>	Notations		
Request <b>12/20/74</b>			
Date Fwd. <b>12/20/74</b>			
How Fwd. <b>660</b>			
By <b>EMR</b>			

SLI

DATE

JAN 2 1975

COVER PAGE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
D. C. 20535

WASH

DATE

12/23/74

TO:

SAC, Oklahoma City  
(159-45)

Re:

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

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by *10-76*Per FOIA request *10-76*b6  
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Invoice of Contents

Q1-Q2

MAILED 9

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FBI

716187

- ☐ Crypt.-Trans.  
☐ Document  
☒ P & C  
☐ Radio Engineering  
☐ LFPS

REGISTERED MAIL

## Special Instructions:

Mail Room: Show shipment date and registry number.  
 Shipping Room: Show shipment date; bill of lading number;  
 initial invoice; return to Section checked in block; after  
 initialing in block, invoice to be placed in administrative file.

FBI File No.

159-4205

12/23/74

PC-L4261 MW

120 JAN 9 1975

OC 159-45

ADMINISTRATIVE

As previously indicated to the Bureau by referenced Oklahoma City communications, SILKWOOD was employed at the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Nuclear Products Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma, which facility is considered a critical Atomic Energy licensed facility. Oklahoma City maintains a separate file regarding the facility, Oklahoma City file 117-436 and maintains liaison with the facility and has included the facility within current division contingency plans in accordance with existing Bureau instructions.

Continued liaison with KMC and AEC representatives indicates that the circumstances of SILKWOOD's contamination incident on or about November 5, 1974 are yet not fully understood, nor are the anomalous readings obtained from body samples submitted by SILKWOOD understood. There apparently is the possibility that a small quantity of nuclear material may have been diverted in regard to the contamination incident and it is also possible that the SILKWOOD body samples were "salted" with nuclear material. It is understood that both AEC and KMC investigation relative to these two aspects is ongoing.

It is noted included in the ~~several~~ allegations made against KMC was an allegation that documents relative to fuel rods fabricated at the Cimarron Facility were altered. As previously indicated, KMC and AEC representatives have obtained a statement from a former employee of the facility, [redacted] in which he admits he retouched inspection negatives for fuel rod quality control.

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Leads are presently outstanding for Dallas to obtain copy of report of [redacted] Accident Reconstruction Lab in Dallas, who investigated SILKWOOD's fatal accident. When received, these results will be included in subsequent report prepared by Oklahoma City Division.

OC 159-45

Three copies of report being provided Bureau in view of Obstruction of Justice aspect of case and in the event that dissemination of report to AEC is desired.

LEADS

WFO - INFORMATION

Information copy furnished to WFO in view of outstanding investigation that division.

OKLAHOMA CITY

WDO, AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA. Will recontact USA,  upon receipt of outstanding investigation at Dallas and WFO.

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b7C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 2- USA, Oklahoma City

b6

b7C

Report of:

Office: Oklahoma City

Date:

12/13/74

Field Office File #:

159-45

Bureau File #:

Title:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)

Character:

LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

Synopsis:

On or about 11/5/74, KAREN G. SILKWOOD, white female, DOB 2/19/46, a member of Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW) Local 5283, was involved in a contamination incident at her place of employment, Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Nuclear Products Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma. Her apartment in Edmond, Oklahoma, was contaminated. SILKWOOD, her boyfriend, [redacted] and her roommate, [redacted] were sent to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Facility, Los Alamos, New Mexico for examination on 11/10-12/74. On 11/13/74, SILKWOOD involved in union-company negotiations, met with AEC representatives and later attended a union meeting at Crescent. Two union members, [redacted] and [redacted] offered to drive her home from the meeting, for they thought she was in no condition to drive. SILKWOOD turned down offers, left meeting shortly after 7:00 pm and was involved in fatal one car accident 7.3 miles south of Crescent. Accident investigated by Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), whose official report revealed no indication of foul play in the accident. Autopsy indicates cause of death multiple injuries and that she was under influence of hypnotic drug, methaqualone at time of death. A trace of ethyl alcohol also found in her system. Allegations received from OCAW indicating that independent accident investigator hired by union suggests that SILKWOOD's car was hit from behind by another vehicle causing fatal accident. Oklahoma Highway Patrol has ruled out any such possibility. [redacted] a Sebring Ford (garage) employee, who helped move SILKWOOD car from culvert,

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OC 159-45

said her car at one point had left rear quarter panel against wing wall of bridge (culvert). He cannot state specific condition regarding damage to rear end. [redacted]

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[redacted] KMC employee, advised that SILKWOOD, after October union meeting Crescent, Oklahoma, spent night with her because SILKWOOD was in no condition to drive because of medication. SILKWOOD was involved in a one car accident on 10/31/74, not reported to OHP, at which time right rear of car received damage. Description of accident scene and damage to SILKWOOD car set out.

[redacted] has no tangible information to support theory SILKWOOD met with foul play. [redacted] said KAREN was using methaqualone, not as sleeping pills, but using them as downers, and that he has seen her under influence of the pills, finding her a little drowsy, but still very functional. [redacted] had no specifics regarding SILKWOOD's contamination or allegations concerning quality control. [redacted] has no personal knowledge concerning fatal car accident or related matters, including contamination. USA, Oklahoma City, requests written report prior to making final judgment concerning allegations.

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ENCLOSURES

TO USA

Five photographs of accident scene and five photographs of SILKWOOD's car.

DETAILS:

OC 159-45

I. PREDICATION

Investigation in this matter was initiated upon receipt of request from the U. S. Department of Justice dated November 20, 1974 as made by [REDACTED] Assistant Attorney General, as set forth below:

"It is hereby requested that the Bureau conduct a preliminary investigation into the matters alleged in the attached New York Times article of November 19, 1974 and the telegram of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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"These allegations, if substantiated, may constitute violations of Section 530, Title 29, United States Code (through the impairment of Ms. Silkwood's rights guaranteed by Section 411, Title 29, United States Code) and Section 1505, Title 18, United States Code (in that Ms. Silkwood was a witness in a pending investigation before the Atomic Energy Commission)."

OC 159-45

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# Death of Plutonium Worker Questioned by Union Official

By DAVID BURNHAM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—A high-ranking union official said today that the death last week of a woman who had raised critical safety questions about one of the two commercial plutonium factories in the United States might not have been an accident.

The official sent telegrams calling on the Justice Department and the Atomic Energy Commission to begin an immediate investigation into the death of Karen G. Silkwood, who died last Wednesday when her car crashed into a culvert a few miles south of Crescent, Okla.

The crash was described as an accident by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. State officials are making a routine investigation into whether alcohol or drugs were a factor in the crash. Neither the Justice Department, the A.E.C. nor Oklahoma officials had any immediate comment tonight on the union official's telegram.

In his telegram to Attorney General William B. Saxbe, Anthony Mazzocchi, Washington representative of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union, said an investigator hired by the union had found evidence "to suggest that Miss Silkwood's car was hit from behind by another vehicle causing her to leave the road and hit the concrete culvert." He said he was not accusing any specific person of a crime.

## Union Has Car

Mr. Mazzocchi told the Attorney General that the union had the car, its investigative report of the crash and other data in its possession and would make them available to both the Justice Department and the A.E.C.

He said that the union had decided to make the evidence available to the Justice Department and the A.E.C. rather than state officials because "the problems were of such great seriousness that the required the Federal presence."

Miss Silkwood, who worked in the Cimarron facility of the Kerr-McGee Corporation near Crescent, was on her way to a meeting with an official of the union and a reporter for The New York Times to discuss safety conditions at the plant. Two weeks ago, she was exposed to a large amount of radiation in an accident at the plant that the A.E.C. is still investigating.

At a meeting with the commission in Washington on Sept. 27, Miss Silkwood and two of her colleagues from the Cimarron plant charged that officials there had endangered the lives of the workers.

At approximately the same time, the three technicians provided the union with additional allegations that the facility was manufacturing some faulty fuel rods and that inspection documents required for these rods had been falsified.

The union tape-recorded these allegations at the time they were made. Recent conversations with other technicians, who asked that inspection records had been falsified.

## Responsible to A.E.C.

Informed of the statement of the union, D. A. McGee, board chairman and chief executive officer of Kerr-McGee, said that because Miss Silkwood's death was still under investigation, it would not be appropriate to comment on it.

"Regarding allegations of falsification of records," he added, "we are fully responsible to the A.E.C. and other regulatory agencies for both quality control and safety and our records are continuously audited."

The Cimarron facility, protected by a tall chain-link fence on a low hill four miles south of Crescent, manufactures plutonium fuel rods that will be used in an experimental, liquid-metal, fast breeder reactor.



Karen G. Silkwood, who died in a car crash last week in Oklahoma.

Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Washington Star-News \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times 11/19/74  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
The Los Angeles Times \_\_\_\_\_

XXX PAGE 28 C



tor being constructed for the A.E.C. near Richland, Wash.

The experimental reactor, which is being built under a \$420-million contract, is scheduled to be completed in 1977 and to be in operation in 1978. It is intended to test a new generation of reactors that the Atomic Energy Commission hopes will provide the United States with increasing amounts of electric power.

There are varying estimates about the potential danger should the allegations of the workers about faulty fuel rods be true. Dr. Ralph Lapp, for many years a leading atomic power expert, said that, as a hypothetical situation, he did not believe faulty rods were much of a problem.

"Should any problem cause a leak it would be spotted and the rod would be removed," he explained.

Dr. Henry Kendall, a leading nuclear critic and physics professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, disagreed.

"These failures could start off an accident which would result in the release of huge amounts of radioactivity," he said.

#### No Explanation

The day after Miss Silkwood's white 1973 Honda smashed into the culvert on the left side of the straight road, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol issued a report describing the accident but not offering any explanation for it. The accident, which occurred about 7:30 P.M., was investigated by State Trooper Rick Fagan. Miss Silkwood was buried yesterday in Kilgore, Tex.

Because of the incident in the factory where she was exposed to a large amount of radiation, the A.E.C. is conducting a special autopsy on her organs.

In his telegram to Saxbe, Mr. Mazzocchi said that Miss Silkwood, at the time of her death, "was on her way to meet Mr. Steven Wodka, legislative assistant to the O.C.A.W., and David Burnham, a reporter for The New York Times, who were waiting for her in the Holiday Inn, W. in Oklahoma City, Okla."

"Miss Silkwood," Mr. Mazzocchi continued, "was bringing information concerning the alleged falsification of records concerning quality of nuclear fuel elements being manufac-

sion at this time of sufficient evidence that we believe would lend credibility to Miss Silkwood's allegations."

Mr. Mazzocchi said that on being informed of Miss Silkwood's death, he obtained the permission of A. F. Grosperon, president of the union, to hire a private investigator who had expertise in examining car crashes to determine the cause of her death.

"The investigator hired is Mr. A. O. Pipkin Jr. of Accident Reconstruction Lab of Dallas, Tex," he said. "He conducted his investigation on Saturday, Nov. 16, 1974. I spoke with him this morning and he has told me there is evidence to suggest that Miss Silkwood's car was hit from behind by another vehicle, causing her car to leave the road and hit the concrete culvert."

#### 2,000 Accidents

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Pipkin said he based his conclusion about the probable cause of the accident on a small fresh dent on the left rear bumper of Miss Silkwood's car and the configuration of the skid marks on the grassy left bank of the highway just before she dipped into the small stream bed and struck the culvert.

Mr. Pipkin did highway investigations for the Albuquerque, N. M., Police Department between 1951 and 1955 before establishing his own firm. He has investigated more than 2,000 accidents and testified in more than 300 court trials, frequently for insurance companies.

He said that because of the dents and the skid marks, "it was highly probable that the car was acted upon by an external force, that the crash was the result of Miss Silkwood's car being struck by another vehicle."

"I recognize the full gravity of my suspicions and urge your immediate attention to this matter," he concluded.

In response to a question, he said: "I am not accusing any particular person with murder."

Based on an independent investigation, however, it is apparent that someone forced Karen Silkwood from the road, thereby causing her death. I'll leave it to the Federal authorities to determine who and why."

Miss Silkwood had been a

continue representing workers in the plant. The union won the battle by a vote of 80 to 61 on Oct. 16.

In her meeting with the A.E.C. on Sept. 27, according to the commission's summary of the session, Miss Silkwood and her companions charged that the facility had failed to educate and train workers properly in the handling of plutonium, long regarded as an extremely toxic substance. They also charged that the company had failed to keep exposures of plutonium as low as possible, to adequately monitor worker exposure and take the required hygienic precautions.

One specific allegation they made was that the company had gradually reduced training from five days to two four-hour sessions during the last two years.

OC 159-45

II. CONTACT KERR MC GEE CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVES

OC 159-45

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA [ ]:

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AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

On November 21, 1974, [ ]  
[ ] Kerr McGee Corporation, and [ ]  
[ ] Kerr McGee Corporation, appeared at the Oklahoma  
City Office of the FBI to advise that they had been  
instructed by their company to advise the FBI that they  
were conducting an internal investigation within the  
Kerr McGee Corporation regarding allegations made by the  
Oil, Gas, and Atomic Workers International Union concerning  
safety procedures at the Kerr McGee Nuclear facility at  
Crescent, Oklahoma, and allegations surrounding the  
circumstances of the death of KAREN G. SILKWOOD, who was  
employed at the facility. They advised that they were  
extending the full co-operation and the resources of their  
company to the FBI in connection with the FBI's  
investigation into the SILKWOOD matter and indicated  
that they hoped that their investigation would in no  
way hinder the FBI investigation. They noted their company  
had given considerable co-operation to the Atomic Energy  
Commission who also is interested in several aspects of the  
SILKWOOD matter. They indicated that the company had  
rather belatedly started this internal investigation,  
having instituted it only two days previous.

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On November 25, 1974, [ ]  
[ ] Kerr McGee Corporation, and [ ]  
[ ] Kerr McGee Corporation, both extended the full  
co-operation of their company to the FBI relative to the  
SILKWOOD matter and related matters involving the Kerr  
McGee Corporation. [ ] advised that he hoped that  
the FBI would not limit their investigation only to the  
allegations made against the Kerr McGee Corporation by  
the union but would include thorough inquiry into other  
areas which he understands are within the jurisdiction  
of the FBI such as possible theft or diversion of nuclear

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material, possible doctoring of SILKWOOD's biological specimens and determining who really was behind the falsification of the plutonium fuel rod records.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 12/2/74

[redacted] Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC), furnished the following information:

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A review of KMC records reflects that KAREN GAY SILKWOOD was hired by KMC on August 3, 1972. She was hired under the name of KAREN GAY MEADOWS, was divorced and reverted to her maiden name of SILKWOOD. She was a white female, born February 19, 1946.

At the time of her death, SILKWOOD worked as an analyst in the Metalagraphic Plutonium Section of the Plutonium Laboratory, Crescent Nuclear Facility.

[redacted] made available a copy of SILKWOOD's application dated July 31, 1972.

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In regard to SILKWOOD's roommate, [redacted] she was hired by KMC on [redacted] and works as an analyst in the Web Laboratory, Plutonium Laboratory, Crescent Nuclear Facility. She is described as a white female, born [redacted]

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In regard to SILKWOOD's boy friend, [redacted] he formerly worked for KMC also as an analyst at the Crescent Facility from August 11, 1969 to September 20, 1974. He is a white male, born [redacted]

[redacted] made available copies of [redacted] and [redacted] KMC applications dated December 21, 1973 and June 16, 1969 respectively.

KMC is currently conducting investigation relative to the KAREN SILKWOOD contamination incident and other related matters. Much work remains yet to be done.

As a point of information, it might be well to consider certain events, which have occurred previously which may well have some bearing on the SILKWOOD incident and related matters. [redacted] who is active in the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) quit his job

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11/27/74 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 10 Oklahoma City 159-45  
Interviewed on File #  
SA [redacted] b6 11/29/74  
by [redacted] b7C  
Date dictated

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with KMC in September, 1974. It is his understanding that SILKWOOD was rather unhappy with KMC, but had been doing a good job for the company prior to quitting. Apparently [ ] felt that he was not getting proper recognition for some of the jobs that he had done. He had two contemporaries with the company, both of whom continued on to college while they worked for KMC and both of whom received degrees. [ ] did not continue his education and therefore, fell behind as far as being able to compete for promotions.

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Additionally, [ ] father, [ ] was one of the key persons who helped KMC establish the Crescent Nuclear Facility. It is his understanding that [ ] had personality clash with his Project Head, [ ], and therefore, quit KMC and went to work in the Marketing Division of another oil company. It is quite possible that the difficulty that [ ] father had with company carried on over into the [ ] family home life and may have had an adverse effect on [ ].

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[ ] again stated [ ] was very active in the OCAW and was one of several persons involved in the leadership of the OCAW Local. Two years ago, the local got its "ears pinned back" in contract negotiations with the company and it appeared that since that time, the union had lost popularity with many of its members who worked at the Crescent Facility. Even though [ ] terminated in September, he has continued to remain active in the OCAW. His girl friend, KAREN, also was very active in the OCAW. [ ] KAREN and their associates had control of the local until about three or four months ago, at which time another group from within the union seemed to dominate the leadership.

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It is well to note that at the time of the SILKWOOD contamination incident, that the union and company were in a period of new contract negotiations, which contract incidentally, was overwhelmingly accepted by the union membership on November 26, 1974.

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OC 159-45

KAREN was a committee woman with OCAW and in that capacity, in late September, 1974, KAREN and union members [redacted] and the present local president, [redacted] went to Washington, D.C. to participate in a meeting of the Safety Arm of the National OCAW Union and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). It is his understanding that the itinerary for this meeting was to include two atomic installations, (other than Crescent) and complaints regarding the Crescent Facility were thrown in by KAREN and the other local members, apparently as an afterthought.

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At the September meeting, KAREN, after getting approval from the Local President [redacted] presented to AEC a four page list of allegations concerning safety violations at the KMC Crescent Facility. The first that KMC was aware of these allegations was from newspaper publicity generated by the SILKWOOD contamination problem and her subsequent death. Procedures have been in the past established for such allegations to be referred to the company, however, the company was not notified. It was only within the last week that the company received the allegations concerning safety from AEC.

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It might be also well to consider that at the time of the death of SILKWOOD, KMC was completely unaware that she had apparently scheduled a meeting with [redacted] of the "New York Times". Nor was the company aware that SILKWOOD had collected documents, which purportedly related to the alleged safety problems at KMC Crescent Facility and/or allegations concerning falsification of documents for fuel rods.

Whether or not any of the documents or papers in the possession of SILKWOOD at the time of her death are actually missing, KMC does not know. [redacted] stated that he is aware of the fact that the OHP and wrecker personnel did see some papers in SILKWOOD's car after the accident and he is also aware that an AEC representative, [redacted] who checked SILKWOOD's car for radiation at Crescent, Oklahoma, on November 14, 1974, made a check of some papers. It is his understanding that [redacted] had indicated that the papers that he checked were "union notes" and [redacted] was unable to be more specific concerning the notes' contents. It is his further understanding that

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the contents of the car, including the papers, was turned over to [ ] and to KAREN's parents.

[ ] took possession of the car after it was released by the wrecker service at Crescent and he has reportedly held the car since that time at some secret location in Oklahoma City. It is his understanding that [ ] took several photographs of the car and on November 24, 1974 left one roll of film in a "drop" in a telephone booth at 23rd and Broadway for "The Daily Oklahoman". He does not know the reason for this type of secrecy in connection with the SILKWOOD incident.

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KAREN SILKWOOD and her roommate, [ ] were sent to the AEC Facility at Los Alamos for medical checks during the period November 11-12, 1974. On November 13, 1974, she participated in negotiating session at the Crescent Facility, met with the AEC and later attended a union meeting in the City of Crescent, which was held in a local cafe, possibly the "Hub". She left the union meeting sometime shortly after 7:00 pm. Reportedly, several people at the meeting were concerned about SILKWOOD's ability to drive at the time she left the meeting. These included an OCAW committee man [ ].

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It was about 7:30 pm at a point seven and one-fourth miles south of Crescent where SILKWOOD's fatal accident occurred. It is his understanding that two union employees, whose identities are presently unknown to him, were among the first to stop and help at the accident scene.

He is aware that SILKWOOD had previously had a wreck on or about October 31, 1974, at which time the car in which she had the fatal accident had received considerable rear-end damage. As a result of this October wreck, SILKWOOD complained of neck pain and consulted [ ] who has offices on May Avenue in Oklahoma City. It is his understanding that [ ] did prescribe the drug which SILKWOOD was under the influence of at the time of her death.

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It is also his understanding that SILKWOOD had another type of medication prescribed to her while she was at Los Alamos during the period of November 11-12, 1974; however, he does not know what type of drug was prescribed.

His company has interviewed [ ] at length and [ ] has indicated that to further complicate the situation, that KAREN had told her that [ ]

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[ ] also continued that KAREN had said that the information that she was going to pass on to [ ] and the "New York Times" reporter was lacking somewhat in quality and she was very disappointed in this regard.

[ ] has also indicated that KAREN was going through periods of deep depression and was supposedly very worried about her contamination and needed to take medication to sleep. She was also reportedly visiting a psychologist, identity as yet unknown, in Oklahoma City.

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In regard to the falsification of the fuel rod records, his office and representatives of AEC have interviewed at length [ ] who resides at [ ] and who is presently [ ] [ ] worked for about a 11 month period for the company at the Gascent Facility, terminating on [ ] He was a fuel rod inspector and microscopically

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inspected the stainless steel welds which attached the caps to the fuel rods. He would visually inspect the welds with a microscope making impressions with highly magnified photographs of the welds, looking for voids and inclusions. During the 11 month period, he inspected some 1700 fuel rod units and admittedly altered the photographic negatives of less than 50 rods with the use of a felt-tip pen.

[ ] claimed that he did this of his own volition. He claimed that his immediate supervisor had no knowledge of these acts and also claimed that he received no encouragement or instruction from KMC to make these alterations. [ ] claimed he had told no other person of these acts.

[ ] made full admissions both to the company and AEC.

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[ ] indicated that the primary reason that he did this thing was to increase his productivity inasmuch as the person who was inspecting his work, [ ] was rejecting an abnormal number of units which should not have been rejected because there were no flaws.

Even though [ ] had indicated that no one else knew of the alterations that he was making to the negatives, two union members, [ ] and [ ], appeared to be knowledgeable of [ ] acts and it was [ ] who first informed the AEC in specific detail in this regard. [ ] was able to identify a particular fuel rod assembly as to number, thus pinpointing an altered negative.

The first knowledge that KMC had of the alterations was as a result of media publicity concerning a union telegram to AEC and the Department of Justice reporting the allegations.

To date, the company has discovered some 37 altered negatives, however, apparently one negative is presently missing.

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Various items were recovered from SILKWOOD's apartment in a contaminated state. These items are being stored in a safe place at the Crescent Facility inasmuch as they are "hot" with radiation. These items included two roaches (partially smoked marijuana cigarettes) and several inches of marijuana plant. Also recovered at her apartment, but not "hot", is what appears to be a narcotics kit, which included a syringe, two needles, a small vial and a larger vial. Also obtained at the apartment was a list which appears to be a separate budget for [redacted] and KAREN. One of the budget entries is for an item "dope" with the maximum amount indicated for this entry under KAREN's name of \$300.

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There are indications that KAREN had contact with several juveniles in the immediate Crescent area and had reportedly supplied these juveniles with drugs and had reportedly also indicated to these persons that she had diverted a quantity of nuclear material. Further inquiry is being made by AEC and KMC in this regard.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 12/10/74

[redacted] Regulation and Control, Nuclear Division, Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC), furnished the following information:

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His company has conducted an extensive inquiry relative to a contamination incident involving KAREN SILKWOOD, who was employed by KMC at the Plutonium Plant located at Crescent, Oklahoma. Miss SILKWOOD was employed as a laboratory analyst in the plant's metallographic department. On November 5, 1974, she was working the 4:00 p.m. to midnight shift and as she prepared to leave work was found to have a low level of radioactive contamination. She went through the normal procedure of decontamination at the plant which consisted of scrubbing with a heavy detergent and a clorox solution. Following the decontamination procedure, Miss SILKWOOD returned to her apartment in Edmond, Oklahoma. She was checked prior to having left the plant and found to be completely free of any contamination.

Miss SILKWOOD returned the morning of Wednesday, November 6, 1974, to work at the KMC Crescent facility on the 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. shift. At approximately 9:30 a.m., she checked herself and again found a slight degree of external contamination. Again she was decontaminated and asked to report at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, November 7, 1974, to the Health Physics Department at the Crescent facility for further checking.

On November 7, 1974, she reported directly to the Health Physics Building and did not go to the Plutonium Plant. The check determined she was contaminated again, and since she had not been in the Plutonium Plant, it was thought that the contamination may have been acquired outside the plant. The Thursday examination indicated SILKWOOD had internal contamination, while the previous tests had only shown external contamination.

On November 7, 1974, a team of specialists from the KMC Health Physics Department went to Miss SILKWOOD's

Interviewed on 11/27/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # OKLAHOMA CITY 159-45  
by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/4/74

apartment in nearby Edmond, Oklahoma, and discovered a high degree of surface contamination at various spots in the apartment.

Miss SILKWOOD's roommate, [redacted] who was also a KMC Plutonium Plant employee, was in the apartment at the time the team of investigators arrived. [redacted] had worked an earlier shift at the plant and was completely free of contamination when she left the facility. However, at this time, [redacted] was found to be contaminated, and she was taken from the apartment to the plant for decontamination.

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The company thereafter notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State Department of Health relative to the contamination.

On November 7, 1974, the company had not determined the degree of contamination of SILKWOOD, [redacted] or their apartment, nor had the cause of contamination been determined. Both women submitted samples of fecal material and urine for bioassay analysis to determine what extent of internal contamination there was, if any, within the two women. The apartment in Edmond, Oklahoma, was sealed off pending a determination of the extent of contamination.

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On November 8, 1974, a team of investigators from the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) arrived to conduct their investigation relative to the contamination incident. The company fully cooperated with this group of investigators in order to facilitate the AEC investigation. There was some difficulty in locating SILKWOOD for the AEC. The AEC indicated that they saw no need to restrict SILKWOOD's movements as long as she took 100% bioassay samples. On November 8, 1974, KMC received from the AEC, six urine samples relative to SILKWOOD. Two of these samples predated November 5, 1974, and four were samples obtained after November 5, 1974.

SILKWOOD had previously been involved in the contamination incident at the plant in July, 1974, and at the point previous to November 5, 1974, she was submitting samples relative to the July contamination on a weekly basis. These samples as well as many of the samples submitted after the November 5, 1974, incident were not supervised; that is, SILKWOOD submitted these samples on her own and not in a controlled situation. Previous to October 25, 1974, her

urine sample was reading less than 0.1 dpm. The count in the samples (unsupervised) increased thereafter reaching a high on November 6, 1974, of  $1.67 \times 10^6$  dpm. Her fecal samples were also checking high.

Her fecal sample of November 6, 1974, checked  $2.0 \times 10^7$  dpm. It is estimated that in order for SILKWOOD to have checked this high on this particular fecal count, that it would have been necessary for her to have ingested 10 micrograms of the KMC Plutonium product or 400 micrograms of the Plutonium Uranium mixture.

X-ray diffraction studies of material obtained from SILKWOOD's extremely high urine sample of November 6, 1974, revealed that included in the material left on the filter was Uranium 205 an isotope which is not expected to be found associated with the Plutonium that SILKWOOD worked with at the plant.

This and other things have led KMC and AEC to speculate that in addition to SILKWOOD having ingested some insoluble Plutonium that some of her fecal and urine samples whose collection was not supervised but submitted by SILKWOOD, were in some way "laced" or adulterated with radioactive material.

SILKWOOD's boyfriend, [redacted] was also checked for contamination and submitted body samples for analysis.

On November 10, 1974, both SILKWOOD and [redacted] were sent to the AEC Los Alamos, New Mexico, facility for a full body count. SILKWOOD and [redacted] were tested on November 11 and November 12, 1974, at Los Alamos. They returned to the Oklahoma City area on Tuesday night, November 12, 1974. ELLIS indicated that they caught a late plane and returned to Oklahoma City around 10 or 11:00 p.m. that night.

On November 13, 1974, SILKWOOD went to work at the Crescent facility but never actually went on the job. She participated in a company-union negotiation session which lasted most of the day. She stayed in this meeting until about 3:30 p.m. and thereafter met with AEC representatives at the plant staying with them until 5 or 5:30 p.m.

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SILKWOOD thereafter went to nearby Crescent, Oklahoma, to attend a union meeting at a local cafe. It was after leaving the union meeting that she experienced the fatal automobile accident.

Many things concerning the contamination incident and related matters are as yet unknown to both KMC and AEC. Based on all the information known to date it would appear that the only conclusion that one could reach relative to the SILKWOOD contamination of November 5, 1974, was that she internally ingested Plutonium at the plant and/or in some fashion carried Plutonium out of the plant and took it at home.

[redacted] made available copies of the bioassay analysis relative to SILKWOOD, [redacted] and [redacted] and are as follows:

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OC 159-45

III. INVESTIGATION RELATIVE TO NOVEMBER 13,  
1974 FATAL ACCIDENT



05 120-42

1046 BATTLE ACCIDENT  
III. INVESTIGATION RELATIVE TO NOVEMBER 13.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 12/6/74

I

Lieutenant [redacted] Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

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A fatal one car accident which occurred on November 13, 1974, in Logan County, Oklahoma, in which KAREN GAY SILKWOOD died, was investigated by OHP Trooper [redacted].

He noted that this accident has received widespread publicity and was separately investigated by an independent accident investigator, [redacted] of Accident Reconstruction Laboratory of Dallas, Texas. As reported in the media, [redacted] conclusions concerning the possible cause of the accident were considerably different than the conclusions reached by the OHP.

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The OHP investigation indicated no evidence of foul play; while [redacted] speculated that SILKWOOD's car had been struck from the rear by another vehicle thus precipitating the fatal accident.

Inspection of the accident scene by the OHP failed to develop any evidence on the roadway of the SILKWOOD car having been struck, that is there were no skid marks indicated that would result from impact of another vehicle. Indications were that any damage sustained to the rear of the SILKWOOD vehicle may have resulted from a previous wreck which was not investigated by his department but is being investigated now and/or from damage resulting when the wrecker was attempting to extract SILKWOOD's car from the culvert in which it came to rest.

It is further noted that investigation was able to establish that the SILKWOOD car drifted off the road and traveled some 255 feet down a bar ditch before hitting the culvert wall. During its course of travel

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Interviewed on 11/26/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45  
by SA [redacted] Date dictated 12/3/74

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there were no marks that would have indicated SILKWOOD had ever attempted to brake or steer the car back onto the roadway.

It is also noted that the autopsy of SILKWOOD determined that she had a relatively large concentration of a hypnotic drug, methaqualone, in her bloodstream. Also less than .02 per cent of ethyl alcohol was found in her blood. The methaqualone appeared to be in sufficient quantity to alone have been a factor in causing the accident and the alcohol, while a relatively minor amount, also would have been a contributing factor.

had indicated that he was going to furnish a copy of the results of his investigation into this accident to the OHP, but such report has not been received to date.

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In regard to SILKWOOD's accident that preceded the fatal accident, this matter was not investigated by the OHP when the accident occurred, however, it has been determined that at 1:15 A.M., on October 31, 1974, (Thursday), at a point 3.8 miles west of Guthrie, Oklahoma, on State Highway 33, SILKWOOD's car, a 1973 Honda, went off the highway going over backwards off a 13 foot embankment and coming to rest against a fence post.

SILKWOOD left the car in the ditch until morning and thereafter contacted Martin's Wrecker Service in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Wrecker service extracted vehicle from ditch and as he previously indicated, this accident was not reported to the OHP. It is his understanding that as result of this accident SILKWOOD filed a claim with the Allstate Insurance Company for damage to the left rear quarter panel of the vehicle. It is also his understanding the wrecker driver who picked up the SILKWOOD car after the fatal accident observed in her car a recent estimate from the Eskridge Pontiac-Honda Company relative to damage to the left rear quarter panel. It is his understanding this estimate was in excess of \$300.

Inquiry by his department determined that SILKWOOD, on November 1, 1974, contacted Dr. CLARENCE

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[redacted], in Oklahoma City, at which time she complained of whiplash. She subsequently contacted the doctor on November 4, 1974, at which time she complained she could not sleep. It is [redacted] understanding that [redacted] prescribed the methaqualone as result of SILKWOOD's visits.

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OKLAHOMA

## OFFICIAL POLICE TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORT

OKLAHOMA HIGHWAY PATROL

Reporting Agency :

Do not write in this space

Date : November 13, 1974 Day of Week : Wednesday

Hour : 7:30 PM

County : LOGAN

CRESCENT

Name of Nearest City  
(If outside city limits)Distance From  
Nearest City Limits :  
Miles

7.3

Miles

Hwy. Class

STATE HIGHWAY CODES

Control No. Int. I.D.

Location

County No.

42

County Section Line Grids Or City Street Codes

East

North

City No.

009+0

016+9

Spec. Feat.

Collision Codes

Inter. Prop. Cl.

L  
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STATE HIGHWAY 74

City or town

name or number of street or highway

name of intersecting road or landmark

NOT AT INTERSECTION

OF

COUNTY ROAD

500

ft.

North

South

East

West

ft.

OF: Control

Location

Time Notified: Date : 11-13-74

Hour : 8:05 PM

Arrived At Scene: Date : 11-13-74

Hour : 8:15 PM

Total Number  
Motor Veh. Involved: 1No. Injured: 1  
No. Killed: 1Unit 1  
Driver: SILKWOOD, KAREN GAY 848-6181

Address: 836 N.W. 48th Okla. City, Okla. 73118

License: 76 OKLA. 456780131

Age: 28 Race: W Sex: F Date of Birth: 2-19-46

Veh. ID No.: SBC1014541

Vehicle: 73 Honda Civic 2 Dr. C = {

License Plate: 74 OKLA. YF 8261

Owner's Name: Driver

Address: Same as Driver

55 MPH 50-55 MPH 40-45 MPH Is Veh. Operable? Yes No

Veh. removed to: CRESCENT by: SEBRING WRECKER

APP

Unit 2  
Driver: Pedestrian

Address: street or RFD city and state zip code

License: exp. yr. state number Operator

Age: Sex: Date of Birth: Mo. Day Year other

Veh. ID No. Driver Training

Vehicle: year make model style size = {

License Plate: year state number

Owner's Name: last first middle phone no.

Address: Is Veh. Operable? Yes No

55 MPH 50-55 MPH 40-45 MPH Is Veh. Operable? Yes No

Veh. removed to: by: estimated damage

APP

INJURED or WITNESS	Injured- Witness-	last	first	middle	address	Phone No.	age	sex	race	veh. #	Position in vehicle						
											1	2	3	4			
1	Injury Type: A B C	Head	Trunk-External	Trunk-Internal	Arm	Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	Lap Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	ped.	1	2	3	4
2	Injury Type: A B C	Head	Trunk-External	Trunk-Internal	Arm	Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	Lap Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	ped.	1	2	3	4
3	Injury Type: A B C	Head	Trunk-External	Trunk-Internal	Arm	Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	Lap Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	ped.	1	2	3	4
4	Injury Type: A B C	Head	Trunk-External	Trunk-Internal	Arm	Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	Lap Belt: Yes	Equipped In Use	ped.	1	2	3	4

PEDESTRIAN	Injured	Taken	To :	By:	Time left scene :	Time arrived hospital :

Damage to property other than vehicles:	Investigation made at scene?	Investigation completed?	Operator's report given to driver -	Veh. 1	Veh. 2	Photos taken?	Driver #1	Driver #2	Pedestrian	HIT & RUN

Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.

SIGN HERE	Badge No.	District & Division	Reviewed by: (initials & date)

Unit 1 2		WHAT VEHICLES WERE GOING TO DO	Unit 1 2		WHAT VEHICLE'S DID	Unit 1 2		TYPE OF ROAD	Unit 1 2		TRAFFIC CONTROL	Unit 1 2		ROAD CHARACTER	Unit 1 2		CONDITION OF DRIVERS AND PEDESTRIANS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. Go ahead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. Went ahead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. One-way road			1. Stop sign	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. Straight-upgrade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. Apparently normal
		2. Turn left			2. Turned left			2. Alley			2. Traffic signal			2. Straight-downgrade			2. Drinking ability impaired
		3. Turn right			3. Turned right			3. Two lanes			3. Flashing signal			3. Straight-hillcrest			3. Odor of alcoholic beverage
		4. Make "U" turn			4. Entered "U" turn			4. Three lanes			4. Yield sign			4. Curve-level			4. Very tired
		5. Stop			5. Stopped			5. Four or more divided			5. Warning sign			5. Curve-upgrade			5. Sleepy <b>DRUGS</b>
		6. Slow for cause			6. Slowed			6. Four or more not divided			6. RR gates, signals			6. Curve-downgrade			6. Sick
		7. Start from park			7. Started from park			7. Driveway			7. No-passing zone			7. Curve-hillcrest			7. Condition not known
		8. Change lanes			8. Entered other lane			8. Turn bay			8. Officer			8. Sharp curve (add to above if applicable)			Body defects (arm, leg, eyes, etc.)
		9. Overtake or pass			9. Overtaking			9. On ramp			9. No control			other			other
		10. Back			10. Backed			10. Off ramp			other						
		11. Start in traffic lane			11. Started forward			other			10. Abnormal control						
		12. Remain stopped parked			12. Remained stopped parked												
		other			other												

OBJECT STRUCK BY VEHICLE OR LOAD ON FIRST CONTACT				POINT OF FIRST CONTACT ON VEHICLES				LIGHT		WEATHER		WHAT PEDESTRIAN WAS DOING	
Unit 1 2				Unit 1 2				Unit 1 2		Unit 1 2		Unit 1 2	
								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Daylight	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Clear		1. Crossing at intersection
									2. Darkness		2. Partly cloudy		2. Crossing not at intersection
									3. Lighted		3. Overcast		3. Crossing at other crosswalk
									4. Dawn		4. Raining		4. Getting on/off vehicle
									5. Dusk		5. Snowing		5. Walking with traffic
									other		other		6. Walking against traffic
													7. Push/work on vehicle
													8. Playing
													9. Other working
													other

COLLISION DIAGRAM

SEE PAGE TWO

visibility obscured by \_\_\_\_\_

Did Location of FIRST Damage or Injury Producing Event Occur on Travel Portion of Trafficway?

Yes ☐ No ☐

**REMARKS:** (COMMENTS THAT WILL CLARIFY REPORT)

(Refer to vehicles by number)

Veh. #1 south bound on SH 74. Ran off east side of roadway. Veh. travelled approx. 255 ft. in east bar ditch. Veh. struck north retaining wall approx. 3 ft. from face of bridge. Veh. airborne approx. 24 ft. and struck the south retaining wall approx. 3 ft. from face of bridge and approx. 3 ft. above ground level. Veh. landed on left side. No skid marks. Witnesses interviewed stated that they had advised the driver was in no physical condition to operate a vehicle.

UNSAFE, UNLAWFUL, OR OTHER ACTION (this section - primarily for general statistics and administrative purposes)			
Unit 1 2		Describe	
			1. Failed to Yield
			2. Followed too Closely
			3. Unsafe Speed
			4. Made Improper Turn
			5. Changed Lanes Unsafely
			6. Stopped in Traffic Lane
			7. Failed to Stop
			8. Unsafe Vehicle
			9. Left of Center
			10. Improper Overtaking
			11. Improper Parking
			12. Inattention
			13. Wrong way on -
			14. Improper Start from -
			15. Other Improper Act or Movement
			16. Not Known - or - No Improper Action
			17. Other Action - not directly related to collision
			18. Pedestrian Action

**UNDER INFLUENCE OF**

**DRUGS**

SUPPLEMENT  
to the  
OKLAHOMA

OFFICIAL POLICE TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORT  
OKLAHOMA HIGHWAY PATROL

Do not write in this space

Date: Nov. 13, 1974 Day of Week: Wednesday Hour: 7:30 AM PM County: LOGAN

CRESCENT

Name of Nearest City  
(if outside city limits)

Distance From  
Nearest  
City Limits: 7.3 Miles  
N ☐ S ☒  
E ☐ W ☐

LOCATION

IN ☐ ON ☐ AT/NOT AT INTERSECTION 500 ft. south of County Road  
city or town STATE HIGHWAY 74  
name or number of street or highway  
name of intersecting road or landmark

Total Number  
Motor 1 No. Injured: 1  
Veh. Involved No. Killed: 1

— TYPE // PRINT —

Injured— Witness—	last first middle			address	Phone No.	age	sex	race	Veh.#	Position in vehicle			
	1	2	3										
Injury Type: A K	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: No Yes	Ejected? No Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: B C	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: A K	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: No Yes	Ejected? No Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: B C	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: A K	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: No Yes	Ejected? No Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: B C	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: A K	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: No Yes	Ejected? No Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
Injury Type: B C	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.
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Injury Type: B C	Head	Trunk— External	Trunk— Internal	Arm Leg	Crash Helmet: Yes	Ejected? Yes	Shoulder Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	Lap Belt: Yes No	Equipped Yes No	In Use Yes No	ped.

Name:	last first middle			Citation:	Citation No.
	1	2	3		
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.
Name:	last	first	middle	Citation:	Citation No.

Non-Contact Unit  
(Vehicle "A") last first middle street city and state zip code

Driver: Address:

License: exp. year state number Age: Sex: Race: DOB: mo. day. yr.

Vehicle: year make model style License plate: yr. state number

Owner's last first middle street city and state zip code

Name Address:

REMARKS:

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SIGN HERE

Badge No. 381 ONE b6 b7C AR

Date of report: 11-15-74

## COLLISION DIAGRAM/ADDITIONAL REMARKS

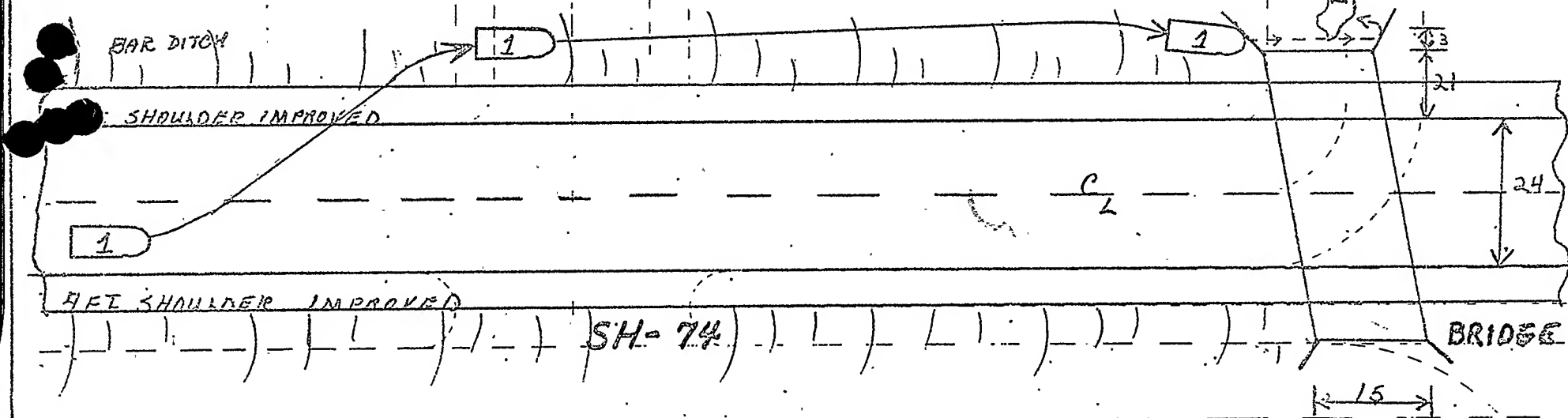
UNREVISED - 20-0001

Indicate  
North  
By Arrow

## DIRECTION OF TRAVEL

Veh. 1 N ☐ S ☒ E ☐ W ☐  
 Veh. 2 N ☐ S ☐ E ☐ W ☐  
 Veh. 3 N ☐ S ☐ E ☐ W ☐

visibility obscured by



Did Location of FIRST  
 Damage or Injury Producing Event  
 Occur on Travel Portion of Trafficway?

Yes ☐ No ☒



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/2/74

[redacted] Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), furnished the following information:

OHP Trooper [redacted] who investigated the fatal accident involving KAREN G SILKWOOD, submitted to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, Technical Services Division (Lab) evidence obtained from SILKWOOD at the time of her death on November 13, 1974. The evidence included two cigarettes, one tablet and one-half of a capsule.

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Laboratory examination of this evidence determined that the evidence was found to contain marijuana and the tablet was found to contain methaqualone.

[redacted] made available a copy of the Technical Examination Report attached hereto.

[redacted] noted that in regard to the autopsy performed on SILKWOOD, that her blood contained methaqualone. There was also a considerable amount of undissolved methaqualone in her stomach.

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In regard to the report which he has previously furnished relative to the SILKWOOD accident, which accident was investigated by Trooper [redacted] this accident report is the official report of the OHP relative to the accident. The report has been submitted to the normal review processes which all accident reports are submitted to and the report stands on its own as is. There is no reason based on the evidence to suspect foul play connected with the accident. OHP is looking forward with interest in receiving the report of [redacted] of Accident Reconstruction Lab of Dallas, who he understands investigated the same accident some three days after it occurred and concluded that SILKWOOD had been forced off the road by another vehicle after having been struck from behind. [redacted] opinion in this regard is entirely different than the opinion held by the OHP and it does not seem possible that [redacted] conclusions are truly valid

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11/27/74

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oklahoma City 159-45

Interviewed on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

File # \_\_\_\_\_

SA [redacted]

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11/29/74

by \_\_\_\_\_

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Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

2  
OC 159-45

conclusions in regard to the accident inasmuch as the physical evidence in the case does not support foul play. His department has not as yet, received a copy of [redacted] report as promised by [redacted]. The OHP's knowledge of [redacted] investigation to date has been limited to information obtained from the media.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/5/74

[redacted] Trooper, Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), Badge Number [redacted] District Number One, Oklahoma City, stationed at Guthrie, Oklahoma, (Logan County) furnished the following information:

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On November 13, 1974, he was working the 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. shift when at about 8:05 p.m. he was in Crescent, Oklahoma when he was notified by the OHP, District Number One Dispatcher, via radio of a signal 82, Accident with Injuries, with a possible signal 30, Fatality. He was informed that the subject was pinned inside and he asked the dispatcher to have the Guthrie Police Department dispatch an ambulance to the scene of the accident. The accident was reported to be about seven miles south of his location in Crescent on State Highway 74, which runs north and south in Crescent.

It is his understanding that the dispatcher at District Number One was notified of the accident by the Guthrie Police Department (PD) who was contacted by a private citizen who informed them of the accident. District One was also informed of the accident by a private citizen who called in about the same time as the Guthrie PD.

He drove directly to the scene of the accident, arriving there at about 8:15 p.m. When he got to the scene he found some four to six people there. The accident involved a 1973 white Honda Civic, two-door sedan bearing 1974 Oklahoma License YF 8261. He determined that the car was occupied only by the driver who was learned to be KAREN GAY SILKWOOD.

The car was off the road laying on its left side between the sides of a culvert on the east side of the road.

He checked SILKWOOD and determined that she appeared

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Interviewed on 11/27/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 11/31/74

to be dead. The ambulance arrived on the scene about 8:30 p.m. and she was transferred to the Logan County Hospital, Guthrie, Oklahoma, arriving there at about 9:00 p.m. Subsequent contact with the emergency room doctor determined that SILKWOOD was dead upon arrival at the hospital and the doctor advised that it was most likely that she died upon impact or very shortly after.

Estimates that the actual time of the accident was approximately 7:30 p.m. Investigation revealed that SILKWOOD had been in the Hub Cafe in Crescent attending a Union Meeting, having left there at 7:10 p.m., according to one of the Union Members, [redacted] and another Union Member, [redacted], had indicated to him after the accident that they were concerned about SILKWOOD's ability to drive in view of her extreme emotional condition caused by her concern about her contamination problem. He understands that [redacted] and [redacted] offered to drive SILKWOOD home, but she declined the offer.

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His initial examination at 8:15 p.m. of SILKWOOD determined that the blood on her face was already dried. This would indicate to him that the accident had occurred some 45 minutes previous, or at about 7:30 a.m., as he had previously indicated. It was necessary to pop the door open with a porta power tool before SILKWOOD's body could be removed from the wreck. She had suffered facial injuries and her legs were broken as a result of the considerable portion of the front end of the car being driven back to the firewall, which was pushed into the passenger compartment. SILKWOOD's car was equipped with both shoulder and lap belts, which were not in use at the time of the accident.

Investigation failed to reveal any witnesses who actually observed the accident. One or more fellow co-workers of SILKWOOD's, employed at the Kerr McGee Crescent

Facility, who also are Union Members, were at the scene of the accident shortly after it occurred.

His investigation of the accident determined that the SILKWOOD car was southbound on State Highway 74. He estimated that her car was traveling 50 to 55 miles per hour before impact. The legal speed limit in this area is 55 miles per hour. He estimates the car speed at the time of impact to be 40 to 45 miles per hour. The car ran off the east side of the roadway leaving the road at a very shallow angle, entered the east barditch and traveled some 255 feet in the ditch. The car struck the north side of the north retaining wall of the culvert, which crosses the highway in a east-west direction. The point at which the retaining wall was struck was three feet from the face of the bridge or culvert. The car thereafter became airborne for about 24 feet, traveling across the opening of the culvert, striking the north side of the south retaining wall at a point about three feet from the face of the bridge and about three feet above ground level. The car landed on its left side with the front of the car pointed toward the culvert or west.

There were no skid marks at any point along the path of the vehicle, either on the road or in the barditch. The car tracks in the barditch were very well defined and there was no indication that the driver appeared to be fighting for control of the car. At a point just before impact, the tracks appeared to turn slightly west or toward the road.

He was able to accurately determine where the car had left the road and entered the barditch and at no point in that area on the roadway surface did he find any skid marks, such as would be caused had SILKWOOD's car been struck by another vehicle.

At the time of the accident it was partly cloudy

and dark (night). The road conditions were dry and the road surface was a rough asphalt. The accident occurred in the rural area with no residents or businesses nearby.

The car was very heavily damaged, particularly the front end. The sides and the top of the vehicle were wrinkled. The tailpipe was buckled as result of the impact. The Sebring Wrecker from Crescent was called to the accident. Wrecker was operated by the garage owner, [redacted]. It was necessary to roll the car over on its wheels before attempts could be made to remove the car from the ditch.

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He does not recall seeing any damage to the rear of the car. He is quite certain that if there were any major or extensive damage to the rear of the car he would have noticed. If any damage did occur to the rear of the car it likely occurred as a result of the car being extracted from the ditch. It is his recollection that the car was pulled into the south wall of the culvert on the first effort to remove it from the ditch. It is his recollection that the rear of the car may have struck the culvert wall at this time. Before [redacted] was able to actually get the car out of the ditch, one of his employees, [redacted] arrived on the scene and helped [redacted] get the car out of the ditch. The car was thereafter transported to the Sebring Wrecker Service in Crescent.

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In regard to the contents of the car, he recalled seeing at the scene of the accident in the back window well a camouflage campaign hat, a raincoat, spare tire, jack and wrenches.

In the rear seat was a large clear plastic bag containing many used sanitary napkins. Also in the rear seat there were two stacks of paper approximately one-half inch thick each, which contained papers relative

to Kerr McGee - Union Bargaining Session. Included in this stack of paper he recalled seeing a letter from an individual from Montreal, Canada. There were also some photographs of SILKWOOD and her friends which were apparently taken at a zoo. There was a thin spiral notebook, red in color, approximately nine inches by eleven inches in size.

In the front seat was a plastic flask with a jigger size top which appeared to contain spoiled tomato juice. In the glovebox there were car papers including title and a damage estimate for the Honda relative to a previous wreck. There was no briefcase in the car. SILKWOOD's purse was in the front seat and from the purse her identity was determined. Also from the purse were obtained two marijuana cigarettes, a pill and one-half of a capsule, all of which were furnished to the Oklahoma Criminal Laboratory for identification.

The following day on the 14th, at the Sebring Wrecker Service, he saw a Union Representative, [redacted] and [redacted] SILKWOOD's boyfriend. This was at about 10:30 a.m. They asked him what his opinion was in regard to the accident. He told his investigation revealed that the car had run off the road. It is his feeling that SILKWOOD fell asleep and went off the road causing the fatal accident. It is almost a classic example, in his opinion, of the one car sleeping driver type accident.

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[redacted] and [redacted] told him that it was their opinion that she had been run off the road. They, at this point, had not looked at SILKWOOD's car as yet. He told them that he had found no such evidence.

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It is his understanding that among the other persons at the Union Meeting who offered to drive SILKWOOD home prior to the accident was [redacted]

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/11/74

[redacted] Crescent, Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

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He is employed by the Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC) at the Crescent Nuclear Facility where he is a nonunion salaried employee working the Uranium Plant X-Ray Section.

On the evening of November 13, 1974, he went home from work and was thereafter contacted by his wife, who informed him she had a flat tire between Oklahoma City and Crescent on Highway 74, at a location some 12 or 15 miles south of Crescent. He called on a co-worker, [redacted] a KMC office salaried employee (nonunion). [redacted] picked him up and they drove down Highway 74 past the Crescent facility, past the intersection of State Highway 33, and continued on south to where his car was with its flat tire. They stayed only long enough to change its flat tire, and he and [redacted] thereafter proceeded up State Highway 74, towards Crescent.

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About one and a half miles south of the intersection of State Highway 33 and State Highway 74, they happened upon a wreck. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), had not yet arrived at the scene. There were five or six people there and perhaps two or three cars. He does not know the identity of any of the persons at the wreck scene. There was a Negro man and his wife who stayed only momentarily. It is his impression that the wreck was discovered by a white male driving a pickup truck. He cannot describe the pickup truck. It is his understanding that the pickup truck driver was able to see partially into the culvert where the wrecked car came to rest. Apparently persons in passenger cars would not be able to see the car from the road since their point of view would be closer to the ground.

He got out of his car and looked at the wrecked car which was a white foreign sub-compact which had been extensively damaged. The pickup truck driver advised him that he believed there was possibly a person pinned in the car.

The car was off on the east side of the road in a culvert opening. The car was laying on the left side with the front of the car pointing toward the culvert opening and very

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Interviewed on 12/9/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [redacted] b6 Date dictated 12/10/74  
b7C



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close to the mouth opening. It was as if someone had tried to drive the car on its side through the culvert. He had difficulty visualizing in his own mind as to how the car had ended up positioned as it was. He first assumed that the car had come directly off the top of the road over the culvert into the ditch. He later found out that the car had been traveling south and gone off the east side of the road, traveled down the bar ditch for a considerable distance and entered the culvert area from the north side.

He took a flashlight and went to the car and could see a white female in the driver's seat. She appeared to be dead. She was motionless and he could detect no sign of breathing. It appeared as if the steering wheel had pushed against and almost pinned her to the ceiling. There was blood on the girl's face which had partially dried.

After he did determine that there was indeed a person trapped in the car, he informed his friend, [ ] who went to make sure the police and OHP had been contacted. He remained at the accident scene. One of the persons at the scene wanted to turn the car over from its side to its wheels. He suggested that inasmuch as the occupant appeared dead and that first aid could not be administered, that the wreck scene be maintained as it was until the arrival of the OHP. He noted that a woman's purse was laying on the ground next to the wreck and he would not let anyone pick this purse up until the OHP got there.

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He did not recognize the wrecked car, but he, after first seeing the girl in the car, thought she possibly was a person he knew, KAREN SILKWOOD, who was also employed at the Crescent facility. Because of the position of her face and the blood upon it, he would not be sure in his identification.

He had been at the wreck site for only a few minutes when the OPH arrived on the scene. The OHP trooper assisted by one or two other bystanders, turned the car over. It was at this point he recognized the occupant of the car as being KAREN SILKWOOD. The ambulance from the Guthrie Fire Department arrived shortly after the OHP and it was necessary to force the door open with an air jack on the driver's side in order to extract the body. The ambulance immediately departed the scene.

[ ] of the Ford garage in Crescent arrived on the scene about the time the ambulance left. [ ]

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OC 159-45

was driving his garage wrecker.

He and [ ] left the scene before [ ] made any effort to remove the car. When he first arrived on the scene, he looked into the wrecked car rather thoroughly to insure that there was not a person such as a small child also trapped in the car. He cannot recall seeing any papers or documents in the car, and he does not know of any personal effects that KAREN may have had in the purse which he saw on the ground. The purse was recovered by the OHP trooper who investigated the accident.

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The car was very heavily damaged, particularly to the front end. The windshield was knocked clear out of the car and the top and sides of the car appeared damaged as well. He cannot see what the extent of the damage was to the rear end of the car, but he did not see anything in regard to the rear end of the car which would be outstanding in his mind.

He cannot say exactly when he arrived at the accident, but it must have been sometime between 7:30 and 8 p.m. He and [ ] may have possibly driven by the wreck headed south after it had occurred, but without noticing the car off the road and in the culvert. He is not sure when he left his house to go fix the tire, but it may have been sometime a little after 7 p.m.

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He did not see anything unusual in his trip from Crescent to where his car was located, nor did he see anything unusual between where his car had been located and where the wreck had occurred. He did not recall seeing any speeding or erratic driving vehicles, and did not recall seeing the SILKWOOD car on the road prior to its accident.

Neither he nor [ ] were dispatched to the scene of the accident by the company. They came there only by chance.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/5/74

[redacted] age 30, residing [redacted]  
[redacted] Oklahoma, telephone number [redacted]  
advised he is the owner and operator of Ted Sebring Ford,  
303 North Grand, Crescent, Oklahoma, telephone number  
969-2524, was interviewed at his place of business and  
advised as follows:

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In connection with his automobile company he  
also operates a wrecker service under Oklahoma Corporation  
Commission Number 31433W. He said he operates this wrecker  
service primarily as a convenience to his customers.

[redacted] advised that on November 13, 1974, he  
had sold a new automobile to a local resident, [redacted]  
[redacted] who resides on [redacted]  
Oklahoma, telephone number [redacted]. Following this sale  
and in the evening of November 13, 1974, he was at home  
with his family and in the company of [redacted] and  
[redacted] telephone number  
[redacted] and each was having a drink.

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He said the local police dispatcher at Crescent  
called his home via public service, advising that the  
District Number One Dispatcher of the Oklahoma Highway  
Patrol (OHP) had relayed information that they wanted  
[redacted] to respond regarding a serious accident at a  
location one and one-half miles south of State Highway  
33 on State Highway 74. He said this was approximately  
8:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. when this call was received. He  
immediately proceeded to his garage, put on a pair of  
coveralls over his suit and immediately proceeded,  
full speed, to the reported scene of the automobile accident.  
When [redacted] arrived at the scene he said he was informed  
by one of two OHP Troopers, who were already at the scene,  
that the single vehicle involved in the accident had been  
rolled over upright onto its wheels. He observed that a  
single occupant had been removed apparently from the vehicle

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Interviewed on 11/27/74 at Crescent, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45  
by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 11/31/74

and had been placed on a stretcher and was being placed in an ambulance parked on the shoulder of the roadway. He said there were two ambulance attendants, one Negro male and one white male. He said at that time there were about six or seven bystanders standing around and there were three automobiles on or along the roadway near the accident site and he noted what appeared to be a red-cabbed, flatbed welding truck. [ ] said that to his recollection, the bystanders disappeared when the ambulance left. He said at that point the only individuals at the scene were himself, two OHP Troopers, [ ] and [ ] who had traveled out to the scene after [ ]. He said the troopers were [ ] and Trooper [ ].

[ ] said he did not know the names of the ambulance drivers but they were operating ambulance maintained by the Fire Department at Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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[ ] said that upon his arrival, he had parked his wrecker on the west side of Highway 74, which he said runs north and south, and that he walked across the roadway to the east side and stood on the shoulder looking down upon the accident scene until the troopers gave him oral authority to begin removing the wrecked vehicle from its location at the base of a concrete bridge.

[ ] said that upon viewing the accident scene he requested one of the troopers to contact by radio [ ] employee [ ] and request [ ] to come to the scene to assist [ ].

[ ] advised, however, that after he was given authority to proceed to remove the wrecked car from the scene that he had been assisted in hooking a chain on the rear of the vehicle by [ ]. [ ] said that [ ] informed that he had hooked the log and chain on to the rear of the car in an area underneath the rear bumper. [ ] said that he then made

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tow taut which caused the rear end of the car to swing around and the driver's side and door came up against the concrete wing of the bridge at the south side of the bridge and the rear end of the car came against the soft ground embankment as well. [ ] said by this time [ ] together with his son, [ ] had arrived at the accident scene and [ ] changed the location of his wrecker, moving it farther south, closer to a barbed wire fence. [ ] then rehooked the tow onto the rear of the wrecked vehicle and [ ] then towed it up out of the ditch towing the car backward, at which time the wheels and part of the undercarriage made definite marks in the ground showing the direction the vehicle was towed out from the ditch. [ ] said that he was then unable to move his wrecker around the wrecked vehicle and hooked onto the damaged end of the vehicle, raising it up and towing it from the location with the rear wheels being on the ground on the way into Crescent, towing the car at approximately 20 miles per hour. The rear tires were still inflated following the accident and he noted that the principal damage to the vehicle appeared to be to the front and left side with the principal impact appearing to be taken by the left front of the car.

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[ ] maintained that in turning the vehicle around in the ditch and rehooking his tow on the vehicle and bringing it up to the bank that no damage had been done to the vehicle by doing it in this manner.

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[ ] said the wrecked vehicle was a 1972 Honda, white in color with black interior, two-door. [ ] reiterated that the vehicle had suffered extensive damage to the left front, damage to the whole front of the car and the right or passenger door was jammed shut and not openable and the left door, driver's side, was standing open when he first observed it in the accident scene. He said at that time it was standing upright on its wheels, facing southwest in the ditch at the bridge culvert on the

OC 159-45

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east side of the roadway and the front wheels were jammed up under the vehicle to the point where they would not roll.

[ ] said that before he was engaged in removing the car from the ditch that he observed that the troopers were examining a purse which they had picked up from the ground and were examining its contents and he observed that they looked at what appeared to be a check-book, using a flashlight to examine the purse and check-book. He said that he noted that the troopers had taken the purse to their cruiser.

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[ ] advised that [ ] had asked one of the troopers the name of the occupant of the wrecked vehicle, but the trooper would not give a name to him.

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[ ] said that he believes that it was Trooper [ ] who had informed that they had turned the car upright, this being before [ ] arrived at the accident scene.

[ ] also had informed [ ] approximately 15 minutes after [ ] had arrived at the scene that he [ ] had to go to the hospital to conduct further investigation in the matter of the accident.

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[ ] said that he had arrived back at his garage towing the wrecked vehicle about 9:30 p.m. and drove the wrecker and towed the vehicle inside the front door and closed the door, leaving the vehicle attached to the wrecker and [ ] then went home to bed.

About 12:15 a.m., November 14, 1974, he received a telephone call from the Crescent PD Dispatcher, [ ] who informed him that some Kerr McGee people wanted to look at the wrecked car. [ ] asked if [ ] would let them in. [ ] reported that he would not without authority from the OHP and [ ] informed that

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a trooper was on his way in to look at the vehicle, this being in a call from [ ] at 12:30 p.m. [ ] then went to the garage where four Kerr McKee people were waiting, who introduced themselves to [ ]. [ ] said he could recall the name of only one, [ ]. [ ] said he believes [ ] is some kind of a laboratory technician. [ ] obtained a sample of a red looking substance from a plastic container which looked similar to a pint whiskey bottle which was in the wrecked vehicle. [ ] and another man checked the entire car and contents with a Geiger counter and nothing other than the red liquid sample was taken from the car. [ ] said this operation was witnessed by Trooper [ ] and [ ]. [ ] a uniformed Crescent Police Officer. After the four men had finished their examination, Trooper [ ] mentioned that he had the purse of the occupant of the wrecked vehicle in his cruiser and that he brought the purse into the garage and set the purse on the wrecker bed and opened the coin side of the purse and [ ] said he noted two rolled cigarettes and two white pills which the trooper said was a sleeping pill prescription type from a Guthrie doctor, [ ], or a similar name. One of the Kerr McGee men questioned whether this doctor was the County Coroner. The trooper answered no but that doctor was an assistant. The Kerr McGee people then checked makeup and other items in the purse with a Geiger counter. [ ] advised further that the two rolled cigarettes, a white pill and two other brownish-reddish pills had dropped on the floor when the purse was being examined. He said that a checkbook and other "women's stuff" was still in the purse. [ ] said that a Kerr McGee Official said that the car was clean of "hot material".

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[ ] said that the next morning, about 9:30 a.m. he had gone to pick up his mail and have a cup of coffee at a local coffee shop and then returned to his

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office at the Ted Sebring Garage and opened his mail. At that time [ ] employee, informed him that the Crescent Police Chief, [ ] and Trooper [ ] had been there and had gone through the car again. [ ] informed that they had not taken anything from the car and [ ] informed that he had observed the officers in their examination come across a cigarette roller, which was contained in a letter in an envelope. [ ] had said that the signature on the letter was TK and was from "Ontario". [ ] said that [ ] told him that the trooper had read the letter and had read the letter or parts of the letter to [ ].

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[ ] stated that he [ ] had not seen any documents in the wrecked vehicle or among the woman occupant's effects.

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Following this, [ ] said that he obtained an oil case box and that he and [ ] went about the matter of gathering up all personal effects from the interior of the wrecked car and placing them in the box to be sealed. [ ] said he recalls that the following items were placed in the box:

1. windbreaker coat;
2. a hat shaped like a troopers hat but being of soft material, army type or style issue;
3. material from the glovebox consisting of a comb, pencil, first aid kit in a round bottle and one or two pieces of paper. Also [ ] said that he recovered the owner's manual and as he handled it the Oklahoma Title, the registration, a repair ticket and a paper in the nature of a warranty guaranty fell from the manual. He said he noted that the vehicle was titled and registered to KAREN SILKWOOD and that the repair ticket was marked paid and [ ] said it was dated November 5, 1974, and he believes

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the repair ticket had been issued by Eskridge Oldsmobile - Honda.

[ ] said that the repair ticket had specified body work and repair to the left rear quarter panel and that as a force of habit, [ ] said he ran his hand down the quarter panel of the vehicle. He said that while so doing he does not recall that he observed any damage to the rear of the vehicle and stated that from this he does not believe that he had caused any damage to be done to the rear of the vehicle when he towed it from the ditch.

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At about 13:30 p.m. on November 14, 1974, another Kerr McGee individual appeared at his garage and asked for another sample of the red substance which [ ] had placed in the box of personal effects. [ ] said that he broke the seal on the box and allowed the individual to take an additional sample of the red substance. [ ] said that he then resealed the box.

About 1:30 p.m., November 14, 1974, [ ] came to Ted Sebring's Ford Agency requesting that KAREN SILKWOOD's personal effects be released to him. [ ] told [ ] that the only way that the personal effects would be released to him would be for [ ] to show proof that he is family. While in [ ] office, [ ] dialed a Texas telephone number under [ ] scrutiny and was informed by the operator that he had dialed an inaccurate number. Following that, [ ] went outside to a car occupied by two men, came back and dialed another Texas number and was connected with and spoke to a Mrs. SILKWOOD first and then to Mr. SILKWOOD, at which time [ ] said that he [ ] spoke on the phone to the man on the other end of the line calling him BILL, to which name the man responded. [ ] at this point explained that he had previously heard an OHP trooper mention the victim's father's name as WILLIAM SILKWOOD. In this manner [ ] said that he felt satisfied that [ ] was in fact speaking

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to the parents of KAREN SILKWOOD and that whatever authority he would receive would be legitimate. In speaking with BILL SILKWOOD, SEBRING said that he was informed that he should let [ ] have SILKWOOD's personal effects and her car and SILKWOOD also mentioned that [ ] was a body man and had previously done some work on KAREN SILKWOOD's car. Mr. SILKWOOD further mentioned that he should get power of attorney for [ ] since [ ] was in Oklahoma and the SILKWOODs were in Texas and it would be easier to handle matters on their behalf. [ ] then spoke to SILKWOOD about the AEC and [ ] asked Mr. SILKWOOD's permission to have an AEC doctor accompany the autopsy of KAREN SILKWOOD. [ ] said he heard Mr. SILKWOOD say yes, that would be a good idea. [ ] then remarked to SILKWOOD on the phone that he and KAREN had discussed during the last two months that she would like to be cremated. Mr. SILKWOOD, in response, indicated that he and KAREN's mother would decide that matter.

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After [ ] obtained KAREN SILKWOOD's personal effects and was leaving he said that he would be back later in the afternoon with his own wrecker to obtain and remove her car.

[ ] said that the two men with [ ] occupied a blue Plymouth or Dodge, four-door sedan, white over white about 1972 or 1974 model. The two men remained in the car seated in the front and [ ] noted that one of the men has a dark beard.

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About 5:00 p.m., November 14, 1974, [ ] called on the telephone stating that he was on his way to get KAREN's car and asked [ ] if he would wait until [ ] arrived. [ ] arrived about 5:45 p.m. and said that he wanted to pay for the towing charges. The service manager, [ ] took care of this matter and [ ] paid \$25.00 by check concerning the wrecker towing service.

OC 159-45

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In this connection [ ] made available a copy of Invoice Number 3555 on the invoice form of Ted Sebring Ford, 303 North Grand, Crescent, Oklahoma, dated November 14, 1974, bearing the name of KAREN SILKWOOD, showing the \$25.00 charge for "wrecker service" which was marked paid and initialed by [ ] according to [ ]. [ ] said he did not observe [ ] wrecker nor did he observe [ ] depart with the wrecked vehicle, at that time was setting outside in back of Ted Sebring Ford building.

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[ ] noted that [ ] check in the amount of \$25.00 was deposited in the Bank of Crescent, November 20, 1974, according to a deposit slip of that date which was a grand total of \$3,702.09, which deposit slip was prepared by [ ] employee.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 12/6/74

1

[redacted]  
[redacted] Ted Sebring Ford, 303 N. Grand, who resides 202 W. Jackson, Crescent, Oklahoma, telephone 969-2916, was interviewed in a Bureau automobile in the vicinity of his place of employment.

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[redacted] advised that on November 13, 1974, he received a telephone call at home from the Police Department Dispatcher in Crescent, requesting that he proceed and help [redacted] at an accident scene six or seven miles south of Crescent, Oklahoma on State Highway 74. He said he proceeded immediately in a company pickup with his son, [redacted] age [redacted] and arrived at the accident scene sometime between 8:30 and 9 p.m. He said it was dark. He said a wrecked car was upright in the ditch at the location of a bridge, being on the east side of the highway. The SEBRING wrecker was already hooked onto the rear of the wrecked car. [redacted] said he assisted in unhooking a line cable from the car and rehooking the line through the winch line on the back end of the wrecker. He said by so doing, the line attached to the car would be in a higher position, tending to raise the rear of the car up more. He said at that point the back end of the wrecked car was facing due south or perhaps a little southeast. He said he was sure that [redacted] had pulled the car around somewhat and the car was partially up on the bank and the left quarter panel of the car was up against the wing wall of the concrete bridge.

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[redacted] said that at that point he was not sure what the tow line was hooked onto underneath the car, but he said it was not the bumper, for the reason that the bumper was not stout enough to hold the tow line. He said there was a good incline to the bank at the point where the rear end of the car was resting at that time when he had rehooked the tow line.

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Interviewed on 12/2/74 at Crescent, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45  
by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/5/74

[ ] said he did not pay any particular attention at that time to the specific condition of the rear end of the car as to whether or not any damage was apparent. He said the left driver's side door was open, the windshield had been knocked all of the way out, and he was not sure, but the trunk lid may have been up.

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[ ] said that this one hookup that [ ] had made with the tow line onto the rear end of the car enabled [ ] in the wrecker, to tow the car up out of the ditch. He said at that time the wrecker was located about center distance from the berm to a wire pasture fence line. He said that [ ] then pulled the car far enough back from the ditch in order to maneuver the wrecker around in front of the wrecked vehicle, and that then the wrecker was hooked onto the front and the car was towed up out of the ditch onto the highway. He said the rear tires were still inflated, enabling the car to be towed on the highway.

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[ ] said that the only other persons that he knew at the scene of this towing operation, aside from his son and [ ] were [ ] and [ ]. He said when he first got to the accident scene there was an Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper at the scene, whose name he thought was [ ] however, [ ] said that he did not pay much attention to the Trooper and [ ] said he really did not pay much attention to what the Trooper was doing while [ ] was at the accident scene.

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[ ] said when he initially approached the scene that he parked his vehicle on the east side of the roadway facing the wreck, being parked on the wrong side of the highway, in order for his headlights to shine on the wreck scene. He said he noted that there may have been a half dozen or so other cars parked along the highway south of the bridge where the accident took place; however, he said he did not know who the occupants of those cars were.

He said when he arrived at the scene of the wreck, he was told that a woman had been traveling south, and he said he could not believe it because of the location

of the wrecked car on the wrong side of the highway for that direction of travel, south. He said he did not know how many persons had been in the wrecked vehicle and did not know if anyone had been killed in it.

[ ] mentioned that the [ ] wrecker is a Ford product, one ton short wheel base. [ ] said when he arrived at the accident, scene, there were no other wreckers or truck type vehicles there, other than the [ ] wrecker. [ ] said that he had picked up the windshield of the wrecked car and stuck it back through the front. He said he did not see any other property that might have belonged to any of the occupants on the ground, but that he did note there were chrome and parts from the outside of the car in the creek bed where the car had come to rest. He said he could identify a mirror, which was a racing type with a dome shape to it, which was lying on the ground, as coming from the wrecked car.

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[ ] said the car was towed to the TED SEBRING garage in Crescent and that he followed [ ] to the garage. The car was put just inside the Service Department door and left attached to the wrecker in the garage. He said that [ ] and [ ] were at the garage and that a man in a big car got out and looked at the wrecked car briefly, got back into his own car, an Oldsmobile or a Cadillac, and left. He said he was a small man, gray haired and bare headed. [ ] said he thought this man was just a curious onlooker and not an official of any type.

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[ ] said that he and his son, [ ] went home about 10 p.m.

The next morning, [ ] said he opened the garage a few minutes before 8 a.m. and since the wrecker and wrecked car blocked access to the Service Department, he had one of the employees move the wrecker and car outside. He said when he opened up the garage that [ ] an Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper, [ ] a Crescent Police Officer, and another Police Officer from Guthrie, Oklahoma, were at the garage.

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These Officers examined the contents of the interior of the wrecked car as [ ] watched. [ ] said he was concerned about watching the car for the reason that [ ] had previously instructed him not to move the car outside. He said he observed the Officers to examine or handle the following items:

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1. A purse which was open on the floor of the car, which contained personal letters.
2. A roller. One of the Police Officers said this was a roller for rolling cigarettes. [ ] said he had never seen one of these before. It had been found on the floor in the front part of the car.
3. [ ] said the Officers picked up other "stuff" from the floor of the car, both in front and behind the seat.
4. An Australian type hat.

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In addition, [ ] said that he observed two binders, which were approximately 3/8" to 1/2" thick, which had soft covers, which had black lettering on the outside, some of which said Kerr McGee, and in part, "Nuclear". He said these binders were not of the loose leaf type and [ ] said he had occasion to flip the edges of these with his thumb and he noted that they contained typed document material. He said one of these was on the floor in the front part of the car at the passenger side and the other was on the floor in front of the driver's side. He said that later he and [ ] while putting personal effects into a box, had placed these binders in a box for safekeeping. He said he did not know [ ] was aware that these binders had been placed into the box.

[ ] said that later when he and [ ] were gathering up personal effects from the interior of the car that he, [ ] put the following items into a box to be sealed:

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1. The Australian type soldier hat.
2. A deflated air mattress.
3. A plastic like rain jacket or coat.

4. A white plastic flask with a silver cap containing reddish appearing liquid.

[ ] said that a kitchen type butcher knife about 12-14" long was in the trunk of the vehicle, which he said he left where he observed it. [ ] said he did not examine any letters which were in a purse in the vehicle, but these letters had been examined by Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper [ ]. He said he believes that one of these letters was from someplace, probably Ontario or Vancouver or New York; and he was told by Trooper [ ] that this letter instructed that the recipient of the letter was to learn how to use the cigarette roller before a certain time when the writer of the letter was due to arrive.

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[ ] said that sometime after the Officers had left after examining the car and after [ ] and [ ] had placed the personal effects in a box and sealed the box, that a gray haired man came to [ ] office and wanted a sample of the reddish liquid from the plastic flask. The box had hardly been closed and sealed when this man arrived and he talked to [ ] about it. [ ] opened the box and let him take a small sample of the contents of the flask.

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On Monday, November 18, 1974, [ ] left to go to Dallas, Texas, on business, and was gone for approximately a week. On that Monday, [ ] said he got a call from Channel 5 News and later that day he met with [ ] and a cameraman. [ ] showed them the accident scene where they took pictures and he answered the questions for [ ].

[ ] said he had also been called by station KOTK and that he furnished them some brief information as he could recall. He said also the Guthrie Daily Leader newspaper had called him, however, he said he did not know what particulars he had given them.

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Concerning recovery of the wrecked vehicle, [ ] said he observed [ ] when he appeared with his wrecker to tow the wrecked car away. He observed [ ]



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did not see the wrecker, nor did he see him actually  
tow the car away. He said he did not have any  
conversation with [REDACTED]

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

[redacted]  
Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

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She is an employee of the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Nuclear Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma. She is not a union member.

On the evening of October 16, or October 17, 1974, she was at the Hub Cafe in downtown Crescent. There was a meeting of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW), who were KMC employees, also at the cafe. This meeting took place in a back room of the cafe. She was not in attendance at the union meeting, but merely a customer. At about 6:30 pm, she saw KAREN SILKWOOD come out of the meeting. She was with [redacted] and [redacted]. She noted that KAREN looked very bad, that is, she looked just like "death". She was very pale, moving very slowly and her speech was very slurred. She asked KAREN what was wrong.

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KAREN told her that a doctor had given her some medication, not specified, that she felt sick because of the medication and was afraid that she could not make it home.

She was aware of the fact that KAREN lived in Edmond or Oklahoma City and faced a rather long drive. She told KAREN that KAREN could come spend the night with her at her Crescent residence. KAREN indicated that she would do that and would be over shortly.

However, KAREN did not show up until 11:30 pm. She does not know where KAREN was in the meantime.

[redacted] stated she was truly concerned about KAREN and made this offer out of her concern. KAREN had not been looking well for some time. She appeared to be losing weight. When KAREN came to her residence, her son, who had not previously seen KAREN, made an aside comment to her that there must be something wrong with KAREN because she sure looked sick.

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[redacted]  
62  
Interviewed on 12/3/74 at Crescent, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 15945  
SA [redacted] b6 12/9/74  
by \_\_\_\_\_ b7C Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

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OC 159-45



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In regard to the medication that KAREN indicated she was taking during the October 16, or October 17, 1974 conversation, KAREN said she was taking this medication for depression.

KAREN spent the night with her without incident and she awoke KAREN at 5:30 am the following morning and KAREN thereafter went to work.

She was not at the Hub Cafe on the evening of November 13, 1974. It has previously come to her attention that apparently someone thought she was at the cafe on November 13, 1974, but she was not there at that time.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

[redacted] Crescent, Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

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He is employed at the nuclear plant owned by Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC), which is located just south of Crescent, Oklahoma. He is the chairman of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) Local Bargaining Committee and is considered to be the highest union member employed at the KMC plant.

The company and union have been in a prolonged period of contract negotiations. The company and union in late November, reached agreement and the union membership ratified the agreement.

Prior to reaching an agreement, he and two or three other union members were imminently involved in these negotiations. On November 13, 1974, a meeting was scheduled for the then on-going negotiations. An international representative from Tulsa, Oklahoma, [redacted] KAREN SILKWOOD, [redacted] and he were to meet about 8:30 am at the Hub Cafe in Crescent for a pre-negotiation conference. KAREN did not arrive for this conference. However, she joined the group when they were enroute to the plant.

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The group entered into negotiations with the company, which continued throughout the better part of the day, breaking up around 3:30 pm. After the negotiating session, KAREN and [redacted] stayed at the plant while KAREN talked to AEC representatives about her recent contamination incident.

She and [redacted] thereafter joined some 12 to 15 union members at the Hub Cafe for a rank and file union meeting. During the course of the evening, KAREN appeared to be a little upset about her contamination problem. She started crying during the course of the meeting, apparently as a result of her concern. He is aware of the fact that [redacted] because of his concern over KAREN's condition, asked KAREN if he could drive her home after the meeting. KAREN refused his offer. He is not sure the exact time KAREN left, in that he did not see her go, but believes she must have left after the meeting broke up and likely, departed sometime around 7:00. He never

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Interviewed on 12/3/74 at Crescent, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

SA [redacted] 64/ Date dictated 12/9/74

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OC 159-45

saw KAREN after the meeting.

At about 9:00 pm or 9:30 pm, he received a call at home from a [ ] an operator at the plant, who said he had just seen a wrecker pulling a car, which appeared to him to be very similar to KAREN's car to the Ford garage in Crescent.

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He thereafter went to the garage, which was closed at the time he got there, but he could see through the windows a white Honda behind a wrecker. The right rear tail light was broken out. He was aware of the fact that KAREN's car had a broken right rear tail light. The car was also heavily damaged to the front end. In his mind, he was positive that this was KAREN's car, however, he conducted inquiry to positively determine this. He contacted the dispatcher at the Crescent Police Department, who would not reveal to him the identity of the driver, inasmuch as the driver was dead. Apparently, there were not releasing any detailed information concerning the wreck pending notification of the next of kin.

He thereafter contacted a member of the KMC Health-Physics Unit, [ ] to advise [ ] that he believed KAREN was either seriously injured or may be even dead. He did so because he was aware of the fact KAREN was contaminated however, he did not know the degree of her contamination. He was apprehensive that should medical personnel be working on KAREN, there might be some danger to these persons from being exposed to any possible internal contamination within the body of KAREN.

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He was successful in subsequent contact with the Crescent Police Department in confidentially determining that there had indeed had been an accident in which KAREN was fatally injured.

He does not have any personal information or even any suspicions concerning the circumstances of KAREN's fatal accident. To his knowledge, no union member at KMC or any other KMC employee has any personal knowledge concerning KAREN's accident. He feels that it would be highly unlikely that the company was involved in any foul play connected with her death. He heard a rumor that KMC [ ] was at the scene of the accident sometime after it had occurred, but he has no information that would lead him to believe that the company had caused [ ] to go to that scene.

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In regard to further activities on November 13, 1974, he was in close contact with KAREN for most of the day, however, he did not observe her taking any type of medication. He is aware that she has from time to time taken medication; in fact, KAREN sometime earlier in November, had received a letter of reprimand from the company for taking some type of medication during a break. It is against company rules to take any medication that might possibly interfere with your alertness or work performance.

He cannot positively state what KAREN drank during November 13, 1974, but he recalls that she preferred to drink Dr. Peppers and he seems to recall her drinking a glass of ice tea at the union meeting. He certainly did not see her drink any beer or any other form of alcoholic beverage during the course of the day, which was also including the union meeting. In the last five years, that he has been an active member of the union, he cannot recall having seen anyone bring "booze" to a union meeting and he would have been very much surprised if anyone had a bottle at the meeting and in some way offered KAREN a drink.

He has heard some speculation that an incident involving a plutonium plant employee, [redacted] which occurred sometime on or about November 16, 1974, may possibly have been related to KAREN's accident, but he finds this theory rather hard to believe. It is his understanding that someone had been "running up behind and following close [redacted] car".

He did not know anything about KAREN's supposed meeting with the "New York Times" and [redacted] in Oklahoma City, which had been reportedly set for sometime later on the evening of November 13, 1974. He feels if that if anyone in the local union would have had knowledge of this meeting, it would have been him, but he was completely unaware of this meeting. He is somewhat offended that he was not included in this meeting if it was as important as the media had indicated. In fact, he did not know [redacted] was anywhere in the vicinity until about 10:00 pm when [redacted] called him at his residence at [redacted] [redacted] told him that he was to have met KAREN in Oklahoma City between 7:00 and 8:00 pm and she had not arrived at this meeting. He told [redacted] that from his information, he understood that KAREN had been killed in a wreck.

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[redacted] and a "New York Times" reporter thereafter came to his residence, arriving sometime between 11:00 and midnight. They had further conversation about the wreck and telephone calls were made from his residence, including a call to the hospital in Guthrie, Oklahoma, where they learned that KAREN was in fact dead and had been taken to a local funeral home.

From his conversations with [redacted] and the others at his residence, he learned for the first time that the purpose for KAREN's meeting with the group was to discuss allegations against the company concerning falsification of documents, which assure quality control of plutonium fuel rods, which are fabricated at the Crescent Facility. He does not know what if any type of document KAREN had to support these allegations. He does not recall seeing any papers that might relate to these allegations in KAREN's possession. He seems to recall that KAREN at one time indicated that she had made some tape recordings relative to some problem perhaps concerning quality control and had sent the tapes to [redacted].

[redacted] KAREN SILKWOOD, [redacted] some national union representatives and he and AEC in late September, 1974 had a health-safety meeting in Washington, D.C. The meeting was limited to discussions regarding health-safety. He does recall hearing [redacted] and KAREN in conversations outside of the September meetings discussing with [redacted] in very broad generalities problems concerning quality control at the Crescent Facility.

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On November 14, 1974, he went to Las Vegas, Nevada, for a nuclear council meeting and so he does not have much personal information concerning events immediately subsequent to November 13, that related to the overall SILKWOOD situation. [redacted] was in attendance at this Las Vegas meeting and told him that the union thought that she might have been run off the road by someone unknown and they were, therefore, going to hire an independent accident investigator, [redacted]. [redacted] made the comment that it did not look that there had been a collision prior to the wreck, but she had gone off the road into a ditch. He said something about KAREN was supposed to have had something at the time of the wreck, apparently meaning some papers, but [redacted] did not elaborate.

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OC 159-45

KAREN, even though she had been employed at the nuclear facility for quite sometime prior to the September meeting in Washington, D.C., <sup>she</sup> did not appear to be overly concerned regarding the possible danger of contamination from plutonium, however, this health-safety meeting, she appeared to be much more cognizant of the potential hazards from plutonium. In fact, ~~it~~ was his impression that she was unaware that plutonium could possible cause cancer in contaminated persons until she attended this meeting. This may have accounted for some of her distress connected with her contamination incident.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

[redacted] Oklahoma, furnished  
the following information:

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He has been employed at the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation, (KMC) Crescent Nuclear Facility since August 12, 1968. He is a member of the Oil, Chemical, Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) Local 5283. The President is [redacted] at Cushing, Oklahoma. The employees of the Crescent Facility are a separate branch of the local and [redacted] even though he is local President, has very little to do with union-KMC relations. The union at the Crescent facility has a three-person bargaining committee led by [redacted] Chairman; [redacted] Committeeman and the late KAREN SILKWOOD, Committeewoman.

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b7C

He was not a close friend of KAREN and knew little of her outside of company-union activities, however, he was very concerned about her physical, and emotional health after KAREN became involved in a contamination incident sometime around November 5, 1974. It was most apparent to him that KAREN was under a severe emotional strain as a result of this incident and apparently the exact nature of any medical problem she may have had from the incident, was not yet known. She had been sent to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) site at Los Alamos where extensive physical examination was conducted and returned to Oklahoma, he believes, sometime on November 12, 1974.

The union and company had a bargaining session set for November 13, 1974 at the Crescent plant and KAREN was to participate in this bargaining session. The bargaining committee was to have a meeting before they entered into negotiations with the company shortly prior to 9:00 am, November 13, 1974 at the Hub. KAREN did not appear for this meeting on time, but joined the group as they were en route to the plant from the Hub.

He, [redacted] and KAREN went into negotiations about 9:15 am. They stayed at the session until 11:30 when they broke for lunch. The three of them joined by [redacted] international representative from Tulsa, Oklahoma, all went to Crescent and ate lunch. They returned to the negotiating session about 1:00 or 1:15 am and stayed in session until 2:45 pm.

b6  
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Interviewed on 12/3/74 at Crescent, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

SA [redacted] 69 b6 12/9/74

by [redacted] b7C Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

2  
OC 159-45

After the negotiating session, KAREN briefly met with company representatives relative to the fact that she did not call to report into work that she was not coming in the previous day Friday. She became rather upset as a result of this particular meeting. KAREN thereafter met with two AEC representatives, one of whom was named [redacted], in regard to her contamination. He was present with KAREN during both of these meetings. He was with her the entire day with the exception of one or two occasions when she went to the restroom, but during those times, she was escorted by another female employee so that supervised body specimens could be obtained. She apparently experienced some difficulty in locating some specimen kits, which seemed also to be upsetting to KAREN.

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The rank and file union meeting was scheduled for that evening at the Hub Cafe. He and KAREN left the plant and arrived at the Hub about 5:15 or 5:20 pm. She drove and he rode as a passenger in KAREN's car. No one else went with them. The meeting lasted to sometime between 6:30 and 7:00 pm.

He was very concerned about her and felt that she was in no condition to drive from Crescent to her residence and he offered to drive her home, which offer she refused. [redacted] also offered to drive her home because he too was concerned. She refused his offer.

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During the course of her meetings with the company officials after the negotiation session and during her meeting with the AEC representatives, KAREN on several occasions broke down and cried and he recalls that she even broke down on one occasion at a union meeting. The entire situation appeared to be upsetting to her; not only was she contaminated, her apartment was too, and she lost most of her personal effects and furniture and did not seem to know for sure the full extent of her physical contamination.

He did not see her leave the union meeting. She did say sometime during the day that after the union meeting, she and [redacted], were going to the airport.

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3  
OC 159-45

to pick up someone. He did not know the identity of the person or persons they were going to pick up until he read about it in the newspaper, nor did he know the purpose of KAREN meeting with these persons until he read about it in the newspaper. To his knowledge, no local union member, including [redacted] the Committee Chairman, was aware that KAREN was meeting with a national union officer and "New York Times" reporter on the evening of November 13, 1974. He did not know that she was making allegations about quality control about plutonium fuel rods. He said the first he knew of this allegation against the company was when he read about it in the newspaper. The fact that he and other union members were unaware of what KAREN was doing in this regard was upsetting to him and several other people.

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During the time he was with KAREN on November 13, 1974, he saw her eat fried chicken at noon. She did not drink any alcoholic beverage, including beer, anytime he was with her during the day. The only thing he saw her drink at the union meeting was perhaps a glass of tea or a cup of coffee. There is absolutely no drinking that goes on during the union meetings. The Hub does not serve beer. He is certain that no other union member would have "slipped" KAREN a drink at the time of the meeting. In regard to any documents KAREN might have had in her possession, both he and KAREN had in their possession their roughdrafts of union demands against the company. He did not see in KAREN's car any briefcase or large file of papers or documents. He does not recall seeing in her car any items that may have related to her allegations concerning quality control. There may have been such documents in the car, but he did not see them.

Neither he, nor any other local union member to his knowledge, was aware of the fact that the national union had hired an independent accident investigator to investigate KAREN's accident.

<sup>4</sup>  
OC 159-45

He has no information that would indicate KAREN's accident involved foul play. In fact, he knows nothing about the accident, other than what he read in the newspaper. He, in his own mind, would rule out the fact of KAREN committing suicide inasmuch as if she had been contemplating suicide, he doubts she would have taken as much time as she did in locating specimen bottles earlier on November 13, 1974.

He knows nothing in regard to the circumstances surrounding KAREN's contamination.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

[redacted]  
Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

b6  
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He is currently employed as [redacted] in the Uranium Lab at the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Crescent Nuclear Facility. He formerly was employed in the Plutonium Lab. He has worked for the company some three years. He is an active member of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) and until very recently, was a committeeman.

On November 13, 1974, he first saw KAREN SILKWOOD that day at the Hub Cafe in Crescent at a union meeting which was attended by some 15 to 20 members. He was aware of the fact that she had been involved most of the day in company-union negotiations at the plant.

At the end of the union meeting, he heard [redacted] offer to drive KAREN home. He made a similar offer and she refused both of them.

b6  
b7C

He made the offer because it was very obvious to him that she was under a severe strain as a result of the contamination incident and related problems.

KAREN's trip to Los Alamos was supposed to have been better organized by the company and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) than it was, but KAREN had several aggravating problems arise during the course of the trip, had problems in renting a car using her own credit card and also incurred some lodging and food expenses on her own. Apparently, she would be reimbursed for these expenses, but the overall hassle added to her numerous problems. She indicated that she was very upset about the trip in general. During the course of the union meeting she was sitting with [redacted]. He did not recall seeing her eat or drink anything other than a glass of tea. There was no beer or other alcoholic beverage at the meeting and he is certain that KAREN at that time, did not drink anything other than tea. There is no place that he knows of in the immediate vicinity of the Hub that serves intoxicants.

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73

12/3/74 Crescent, Oklahoma Oklahoma City 159-45  
Interviewed on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ File # \_\_\_\_\_  
SA [redacted] b6 12/9/74  
by \_\_\_\_\_ b7C Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

2  
OC 159-45

KAREN seemed "normal" when she left the meeting at about 7:00 pm. He cannot describe her condition, other than normal. All he can say, is that she, just before she left, did not appear to be behaving in any fashion other than her usual fashion, but he was still concerned enough to offer to drive her home.

He did not know that KAREN was going to meet anyone after the union meeting and was completely unaware of the fact that she was going to make further allegations concerning quality control on fuel rods. He was aware of the initial allegations made in this regard, but was unaware of these additional allegations.

In regard to her accident, he does not know what happened. He has no information whatsoever and does not know whether foul play occurred or not. He would find it hard to believe that the company would have had KAREN killed because he thinks that the company is aware of the fact that the company can manipulate KAREN should they desire to place enough pressure on her. KAREN will bend under pressure, he knows it and the company knows it. So it would not be necessary for the company to take such extreme action against her.

In late September, 1974, he, [ ] and KAREN <sup>b6</sup> went to Washington, D.C. to take part in an AEC Safety meeting. <sup>b7c</sup> This meeting was specifically in regard to the Crescent Facility. A similar safety meeting had been held about one month before concerning the Atomic Facility at Erwin, Tennessee. The fuel rod allegations were not brought up during the course of this meeting. Only allegations concerning health and safety at the KMC Crescent Facility were discussed. The union's allegations in this regard consisted of some three or four charges.

The allegations concerning the fuel rods were brought up by the National Union after KAREN's death and to his knowledge there had not been a prior complaint.

He does not know what kind of documentation KAREN may have had concerning the fuel rod allegations, but she may have had some specifics in a small notebook, approximately 3 X 5 inches in size, which he has in the past seen her carry.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/12/74

On December 3, 1974, [ ] observed the scene to which the fatal accident of KAREN G. SILKWOOD occurred on November 13, 1974. SA [ ] made photographs of the area.

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The scene is located on Oklahoma State Highway 74 seven and three-tenths miles south of Crescent, Oklahoma. It is noted that the scene is approximately one and three-tenths miles south of the intersection of State Highways 74 and 33 and the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Cimarron Facility is located between Crescent and the accident site at a point approximately two and one-tenth miles north of the accident site. State Highway 74 is the most direct route between the Cimarron Facility and Oklahoma City with access to the Oklahoma City suburb, Edmond, Oklahoma.

The road at the point where the accident occurred is straight and flat with a slight down grade (south) toward a creek bottom.

The road is a two-lane, rough asphalt highway with a painted center divided line. The shoulders (four feet wide) are smooth and well maintained and at the same level as the road surface. On either side of the road is a broad, grass-covered bar ditch, which surface varies from smooth to undulating.

Visibility north from the accident scene along the highway is unrestricted for approximately one and one-half miles. Visibility south along the road is unrestricted for approximately one-half mile.

There are farm fields east and west of the road at the accident site. There are no nearby residences or businesses. The highway is not lighted in this area.

The concrete culvert in which the vehicle of KAREN SILKWOOD came to rest on the east side of the road is not clearly noticeable from the road. The culvert is not readily apparent to a south-bound driver of a passenger car.

Considerable debris, including broken glass, ornamental

12/3/74	Logan County, Oklahoma	Oklahoma City 159-45
Interviewed on	at	File #
SA [ ]	75	b6 12/6/74
by		b7C Date dictated

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OC 159-45

metal, broken plastic and a white racing mirror still littered the impact area. Careful inspection of the north-bound and south-bound highway lanes between the culvert and the section line road some 500 feet north failed to reveal any skid marks, which would appear to relate to the November 13, 1974 accident.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

On the evening of December 3, 1974, SA [redacted] in the garage located at 5818 N. W. 33rd, Oklahoma City, examined a white 1973 Honda Civic bearing current Oklahoma license YF 8261.

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The odometer read 35596.4. The car was heavily damaged on the front end. The extreme front portion of the left front had been driven back to a point within 14 inches of the fire wall on the driver's side. The fire wall, dash board and steering wheel had all been driven forward into the driver's compartment. The front windshield was knocked out. The car roof was buckled and roof chrome trim displaced. The left side, including the left door, was heavily damaged with numerous dents and wrinkles in the sheet metal.

The right door was wrinkled at the top just below the window glass.

The right rear of the car was damaged, which included broken tail light and damaged right tail light assembly; wrinkled fender, right side immediately in front of of tail light, near bumper creased and wrinkled right of center to terminal portion of right side. The right side tag license plate was cracked and broken.

At the extreme left rear corner (the rounded surface between the outside of the left rear fender and the flat surface from the rear of the car) at a point below the rear bumper was an eliptically-shaped dent. The long axis of this dent was nearly parallel to the ground. The center of the dent was approximately 13 inches above ground level. The dent had numerous horizontal parallel striations. No paint other than the white Honda paint and underlying primer coats were obvious to the naked eye.

SA [redacted] scraped the dent surface with a hard steel tool and obtained paint samples. The dent was approximately five inches long and three inches high.

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Interviewed on 12/3/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

SA [redacted]

b6

12/9/74

b7C

Date dictated

2  
OC 159-45

Located on the under surface of the extreme left corner of the rear bumper was an undefined scratched area about one inch in diameter. The bumper did not appear to be dented at this point. There were no pieces of paint discernible to the naked eye in this scratched area. There were several small particles of what appeared to be soil in this scratched area. The scratched area was at a point some 15 inches above ground level. SA [ ] scraped the surface of the scratched area with a hard steel tool obtaining a very minute quantity of debris.

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b7c

SA [ ] took photographs of the automobile which he examined.

OC 159-45

IV. AUTOPSY - MEDICAL

78a

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 12/6/74

1

[redacted] Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Board of Medicolegal Investigations, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, made available a copy of the autopsy report relative to KAREN G. SILKWOOD. The report is dated November 21, 1974, and appeared over the signature of A. J. CHAPMAN, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner.

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[redacted] advised that the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) at Los Alamos, New Mexico, still has an ongoing examination of the deceased's internal organs and tissues and the results of this AEC examination has not yet been received by her office. When the AEC examination is completed and furnished to her office, it will be incorporated into the present autopsy report relative to SILKWOOD. She believes that it may be several weeks until her office hears results of AEC examination.

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Interviewed on 11/26/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

b6  
b7CDate dictated 12/3/74

This document  
is and its contents

OC 159-45

2

BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

824 NORTHEAST 15th STREET  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104  
(405)-239-7141

AMENDMENT TO REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Full Name of Decedent Karen G. Silkwood

Date of Death: 11/13/74

City/County of Death: Guthrie/Logan

File Number:

Medical Examiner: Robert Ringrose, M.D.

ITEMS AMENDED:

( ) Cause of Death

(X) Manner of Death Accident

( ) Other

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND

CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

A. JAY CHAPMAN, M.D. DATED

CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

By Florida Guthrie

NOV 26 1974

80

November 21, 1974

Date

A. Jay Chapman M.D.  
Signature A. Jay Chapman, M.D.

113874

00-159-45  
3I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND  
CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.A. JAY CHAPMAN, M. D. DATED  
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINERBy Florence Guthrie NOV 26, 1974BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER824 NORTHEAST 15th STREET  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104  
(405)-239-7141Office of  
Chief Medical Examiner

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Rep. AD

Cd. \_\_\_\_\_

Att. \_\_\_\_\_

Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY MEDICAL EXAMINER

DECEDENT Karen G. Silkwood AGE: 28 RACE: Can SEX: F M W C DADDRESS 836 NW 48th Oklahoma City BIRTHDATE 2/19/74 OCCUPATION Lab tech / ScientistTYPE OF DEATH: Suspicious ☐ Unattended by a licensed physician: ☐  
While in penal incarceration ☐ Suspected Unattended during fatal illness ☐  
After unexplained coma ☐ Instantaneous without obvious cause ☐  
During therapeutic procedure ☐ Found dead without obvious cause ☐  
Death possible threat to public health ☐ Stillbirth attended by midwife ☐  
Unusual ☒  
Violent or Unnatural  
Means:

DATE	Last Known Alive	Injury or Illness	Death	Medical Examiner Notified	View of Body	Police Notified	If motor vehicle accident check one of the following
2/11/74			11/13/74	11/13/74	11/13/74	11/13/74	DRIVER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSENGER <input type="checkbox"/> PEDESTRIAN <input type="checkbox"/>
TIME	1800		1900	135	2145	2000	

NOTIFICATION BY: Hosp personnel ADDRESS Logan Memorial Hosp

LOCATION (ADDRESS) CITY OR COUNTY TYPE OF PREMISES (E. G., HOSPITAL, HOTEL, HIGHWAY, ETC.)

INJURY OR ONSET OF ILLNESS

DEATH SH 74 LOGAN Highway 14 mi S of SH 33VIEWING OF BODY BY MEDICAL EXAMINER Logan Memorial Hosp Guthrie E.R. Hosp

DESCRIPTION OF BODY	NOSE	MOUTH	EARS	NON FATAL WOUNDS	RIGOR	LIVOR
Clothed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unclothed <input type="checkbox"/> Partly Clothed <input type="checkbox"/> Hair <u>Bun</u> Beard <input type="checkbox"/> Mustache <input type="checkbox"/> Circumcised <input type="checkbox"/> Pupils: R <u>4/4</u> L <u>4/4</u> Eyes: Color <u>Bun</u> Opacities, Etc. <input type="checkbox"/>	BLOOD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FROTH <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Sands, dirt, water, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abrasion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Burn <input type="checkbox"/> Contusion <input type="checkbox"/> Stab <input type="checkbox"/> Gunshot <input type="checkbox"/> Incised <input type="checkbox"/> Laceration <input type="checkbox"/> Fracture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jaw <input type="checkbox"/> Arms <input type="checkbox"/> Neck <input type="checkbox"/> Chest <input type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Abdomen <input type="checkbox"/> Legs <input type="checkbox"/>	Color <input type="checkbox"/> Anterior <input type="checkbox"/> Posterior <input type="checkbox"/> Lateral <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/>
WEIGHT <u>110</u> LENGTH <u>5'5"</u> BODY HEAT: <u>normal</u>	Distribution: Scalp <input type="checkbox"/> Face <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neck <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Abdomen <input type="checkbox"/> Arms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

FATAL WOUNDS:

TYPE (Gunshot, Incised, Stab, etc.)	SIZE	SHAPE	ANATOMIC LOCATION	PLANE, LINE OR DIRECTION
<u>Facial, chest &amp; bilateral leg fractures</u>				
<u>Compound fracture @ lower</u>				

Probable cause of death: Multiple injuries Manner of death: (Check one only) Accident ☐ Suicide ☐ Homicide ☐ Natural ☐ Unknown ☐ Pending ☐ Disposition of Case: 1. Not a medical examiner case ☐ 2. Autopsy authorized ☒ No ☐ Pathologist \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby state that, after receiving notice of the death described herein, I conducted an investigation as to the cause and manner of death, as required by law, and that the facts contained herein regarding such death are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

11/13/74

County of Appointment

Signature of Medical Examiner

159-46

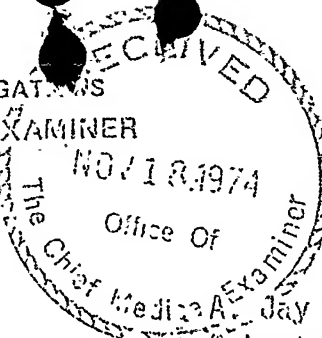
BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

824 NORTHEAST 15th STREET

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104

(405) 239-7141

## REPORT OF AUTOPSY



DECEDENT Karen Gay Silkwood Authority for autopsy: Robert Ringrose, M.D. Jay Chapman, M.D., CME  
First name Middle name Last name Name Official Title

## TYPE OF DEATH

Violent or Unnatural ☒  
Unusual ☐

Means:

Automobile

Unattended by a physician ☐  
While in penal incarceration ☐  
During therapeutic procedure ☐  
Body to be cremated, buried at sea,  
transported out of state ☐  
Death possible threat to public health ☐  
After unexplained coma ☐  
Suspicious ☐

## Rigor

Jaw ☐ Arms ☐  
Neck ☐ Chest ☐  
Back ☐ Abdomen ☐  
Legs ☐

Complete

## Livor

Color Purple

Anterior ☐  
Posterior ☒  
Lateral ☐

Regional

Body Identified by:

Personal effects  
and tag

Present at Autopsy

Jim Lawrence, S.L.C.

Dr. C. Sternhagen,

Dr. G. Voelz

Dr. M. Stewart, Jr.

S. Sullaway

J. Shackelford

Age 28 Race W Sex F App 6'2" Est 105 Eyes Bwn Pupils: R. 0.6 Opacities, Etc.Hair Bwn Beard n/a Mustache n/a Circumcised n/a Body Heat Cold L. 0.5

NON-FATAL WOUNDS, SCARS, TATTOOING, ABRASION, CONTUSION, BURNS, SEXUAL ASSAULT, LACERATION, DECOMPOSITION,  
POSTMORTEM INJURIES

(see attached sheet)

## PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND  
CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

A. JAY CHAPMAN, M.D. DATED

CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

BY A. Jay Chapman NOV 20 1974

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Cause of death:

Multiple injuries

Provisional Report ☐Final Report ☐

ML 501-74

The facts stated herein are true and correct to the  
best of my knowledge and belief.

A. Jay Chapman  
Signature of Pathologist

11-14-74 3:00 p.m. BSB Morgue

Date and time of autopsy

Place of autopsy

OC 159-45  
5  
ML 501-74

Karen Gay Silkwood

EXTERNAL DESCRIPTION:

1. The body is clothed as follows:

- a. One brown leather coat in the pockets of which there are the following items:  
4 quarters, 4 pennies, 1 nickel, 6 dimes. A small notebook contains 2 one-dollar bills and 1 \$5.00 bill as well as a blank check, a professional card from Dr. Sternhagen in New Mexico.  
A Bradley brand Mickey Mouse pocket watch, 2 Kleenexes, used.  
One vial containing yellow and aqua pills as well as powdered pills.  
One radiation badge with photographic ID and name.  
One electronic security key.
- b. One silver-chain necklace with multi-colored and silver pendants.
- c. One pair of red, white and black striped plaid slacks.
- d. One pair of white socks.
- e. One pair of leather half-boots.
- f. One pullover black blouse.
- g. A Kotex pad is in place as well as a tampon.
- h. One pair of brown and white patterned extremely brief panties.

A vertical 3/4 inch laceration is present in the left mid forehead in the hairline extending inferiorly.

The orbital contents on the left are displaced posteriorly, and there is along the inferior border of the left eyebrow extending from the base of the nose laterally, a 1-3/4 inch irregular laceration. Marked orbital contusion is present on the left.

There are multiple fractures of the nasal bones.

Blood is present from the nares and mouth.

Irregular abrasions cover the anterior chest on the left in an area up to approximately 8 inches in greatest dimension. These range from 1/2 up to 4 inches in greatest dimension.

Covering the left aspect of the abdomen inferiorly and medially to the midline is an irregular area of superficial abrasion which is 5-1/2 inches in greatest dimension.

Postmortem needle puncture wounds are present in the anterior chest wall on the left.

Irregular superficial abrasions and slight lacerations involve the entire right forearm from the midpoint distally, and these areas of injury range from 1/4 up to 3 inches in greatest dimension.

Similar injuries involve the left distal forearm from the midpoint. In addition there is a fracture of the distal aspect of the 5th metacarpal.

There is marked distortion of the left lower extremity in the mid thigh where there is complete fracturing of the femur overlain anterolaterally by areas of contusion and abrasion as well as laceration covering an area up to 6 inches.

The left patellar area has marked laceration through the entire thickness of the skin with apparent avulsion of skin and this area is 3-1/2 inches in greatest dimension. Irregular abrasions are present on the medial aspect of the left knee and on the proximal and mid thirds of the anteromedial tibial area, and these average 1-1/2 inches.

.....continued:



OC 159-45  
6

ML 501-74  
Page 2  
Karen Gay Silkwood

EXTERNAL DESCRIPTION (cont'd):

The proximal third of the right medial thigh has irregular laceration in an area 2-1/2 inches in greatest dimension. Over the middle third of the posterior right thigh there is a puncture type laceration and irregular abrasion surrounding an area approximately 1 inch in greatest dimension.

An irregular fracture near the point of juncture of the proximal and middle thirds of the right femur is present. The right tibia and fibula are fractured near the juncture of the middle and distal thirds, and the bone is comminuted.

Irregular contusions are present on the medial aspect of the right ankle and cover an area 2-1/2 inches in greatest dimension.

Irregular areas of bluish red discoloration cover an area 5-1/2 inches in greatest dimension over the medial aspect of the right knee and proximal third of the right leg medially.

Over the lateral most aspect of the iliac crest on the right is an irregular superficial abrasion associated with bluish discoloration 1-1/4 inches in greatest dimension.

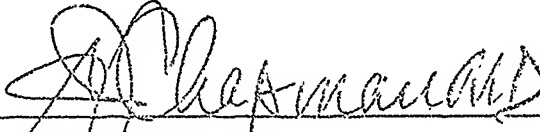
The posterior aspect of the proximal third of the right thigh has a laceration 1-1/2 inches in greatest dimension diagonally placed and associated with irregular abrasion and contusion in an area up to 5 inches in greatest dimension.

A marked hematoma is 2 inches in greatest dimension over the lateral aspect of the right foot near the ankle at the base of the metatarsals.

In the midline of the forehead extending superiorly from the base of the nose is a vertical 1 inch irregular laceration with hemorrhage.

Dr. Mike Stewart is prosector of internal examination.

Multiple fractures, contusions, lacerations, and abrasions..

  
A. Jay Chapman, M. D.

jm

Autopsy #501-74  
Silwood, Karen G.  
November 14, 1974

#### INTERNAL GROSS AUTOPSY EXAMINATION

**ABDOMINAL CAVITY:** Incision of the ventral abdominal wall reveals virtually no subcutaneous adipose tissue stores, although the skin turgor and skeletal muscle consistency do not suggest cachexia or inanition.

Incision of the peritoneum reveals an estimated 3 units of recent hemorrhage throughout the peritoneal cavity without evidence of exudation or fibrinous proliferation. The abdominal viscera generally occupy their usual positions but it is noted there are blunt lacerations of the liver and spleen and contusions of the small bowel without evidence of small bowel perforation. The mesentery is somewhat displaced ventrally and retroperitoneal hemorrhage is noted surrounding both kidneys and dissecting somewhat into the root of the mesentery. The source of this hemorrhage appears to be from the posterior surface of the liver near the inferior vena cava.

**THORACIC CAVITY:** Reflection of the ventral skin of the thoracic cavity reveals contusion of the pectoral musculature and fracture dislocations of both sternoclavicular joints. There are displaced fractures of the left 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th ribs anteriorly just lateral to the sternoclavicular cartilages. Contusion of the right chest anteriorly is prominent but displaced fractures are not seen.

Removal of the sternum reveals no tension pneumothorax but both lungs are somewhat collapsed, particularly the left lung. There are lung contusions and a few cc. of blood-tinged proteanaceous fluid in each pleural cavity without evidence of exudation or fibrosis. The mediastinum and pericardial sac are intact.

#### ORGAN SYSTEMS:

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:** The pericardial sac contains a few cc. of proteanaceous fluid without evidence of hemorrhage. The heart has a normal gross external configuration, weighs 180 grams, and shows no evidence of contusion. Examination of the coronary arteries reveals virtually no atheromatous disease. Examination of the chambers of the heart show minor acute dilatation of the right ventricle. There is no evidence of hypertrophy, inflammation, interstitial fibrosis, or necrosis. The heart valves and great vessels are normally developed and well formed.

**RESPIRATORY System:** The trachea is blood stained but there is no evidence of active inflammation. The combined weight of the left and right lungs is 1200 grams. Both lungs have multiple contusions (considerably more severe left anteriorly) but there is no evidence of actual perforation. Gross sectioning reveals hemorrhages related to the contused areas but there is no gross evidence of significant pre-existing pulmonary parenchymal disease. The pulmonary arteries are clear.

Autopsy #501-74  
Silwood, Karen G.  
Continued:

-2-

**GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT**-The esophagus is grossly normal. The stomach contains 500 cc. of partially digested material without gross evidence of medications. No mucosal abnormalities are seen. The small bowel and colon are practically empty and contain no developmental or acquired abnormalities. The appendix is normal.

**LIVER**-The liver weighs 1300 grams and contains multiple irregular blunt laceration involving the ventral surface and dome of the right lobe extending posteriorly. Gross examination of the liver reveals no distortion of the lobular architecture and there is no evidence of fatty parenchymal change or portal fibrosis. The gallbladder is small and shows it to contain less than 10 cc. of green viscid bile and no evidence of stone formation or mucosal cholesterosis. The common bile duct is patent and delicate.

**PANCREAS**-There is some hemorrhage surrounding the pancreas but no evidence of active pancreatitis or pancreatic necrosis.

**GENITOURINARY SYSTEM**-Both kidneys are surrounded by retroperitoneal hemorrhage but there is no gross evidence of actual contusion to the renal parenchyma. The kidneys have a normal weight and development. Gross sectioning reveals no evidence of inflammatory or vascular renal changes. Both ureters are patent and intact. The urinary bladder contains approximately 100 cc. of clear yellow urine. The uterus, ovaries, and oviducts are grossly normal.

**ENDOCRINE SYSTEM**- Both adrenal glands have a normal size, shape, color and configuration. The thyroid gland is bilaterally symmetrical without evidence of fibrosis, inflammation, or nodularity. The pituitary gland is grossly normal.

**HEMATOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM**- The spleen contains irregular lacerations of the capsule as mentioned. The organ weighs 110 grams and gross sectioning reveals no parenchymal abnormalities, other than the traumatic lesions as described. There are only a few scattered small mesenteric and periportal lymph nodes which show no evidence of inflammation or hyperplasia. The thoracic lymph nodes have the expected anthracosis without evidence of granulomas, fibrosis, or hypertrophy. Grossly, the bone marrow of the sternum, ribs, vertebral column, and left femur is normally cellular.

**MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM**-The skeletal muscles show no evidence of atrophy, dystrophy or wasting. The skeletal system is normally developed and generally intact with the exception of the traumatic injuries as mentioned in the gross external examination.

**CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM**-Reflection of the scalp reveals no subgaleal hematoma. The calvarium is intact.

Removal of the calvarium reveals no subdural or subarachnoid hemorrhage. The brain weighs 1275 grams and is bilaterally symmetrical but shows apparent early and minor cerebral edema with flattening of the gyri, narrowing of the sulci, and slight uncus nicking. Gross sectioning of the brain reveals no contusions, no internal hemorrhages, and no evidence of pre-existing cerebral disease. The proximal spinal cord is grossly unremarkable. Examination of the base of the skull reveals no evidence of fracture.



DC 159-45  
9

Autopsy #501-74  
Silwood, Karen C.

#### MICROSCOPIC

Heart-The myocardium has a uniform consistency without evidence of trauma, inflammation, hypertrophy, fibrosis, infarction, or degeneration.

Respiratory System-The lungs contain large areas of contusion with acute hemorrhage obliterating large areas of alveoli. There is no evidence of pre-existing pulmonary disease.

Liver-The hepatic lobular architecture is intact. The parenchyma cells are regular and uniform without evidence of fatty cytoplasmic change. The portal areas and central lobular architecture are unremarkable. The liver near areas of traumatic laceration show interstitial hemorrhage and early infiltration of acute inflammatory cells.

Pancreas-Microscopically there are no abnormal pancreatic parenchymal changes. Some autolysis is seen and there is peripancreatic hemorrhage without evidence of pancreatic contusion.

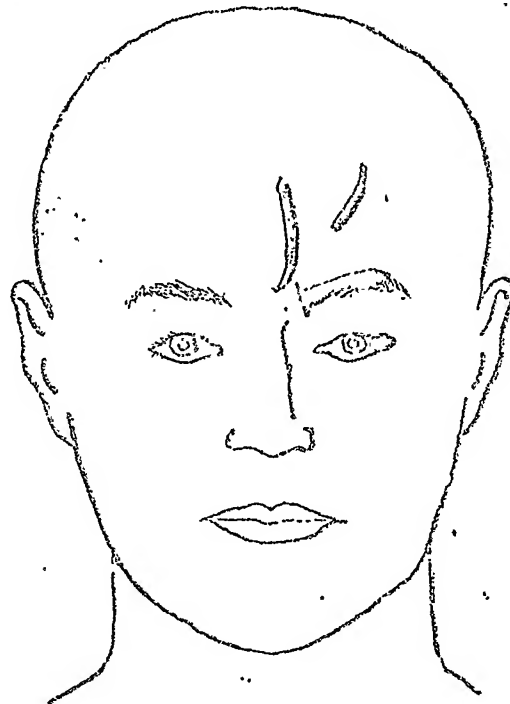
Kidneys-Both kidneys show no evidence of significant vascular or inflammatory disease. There are early ischemic tubular epithelial changes.

Adrenals-Both adrenal glands show acute hemorrhagic changes without evidence of cortical necrosis or degeneration.

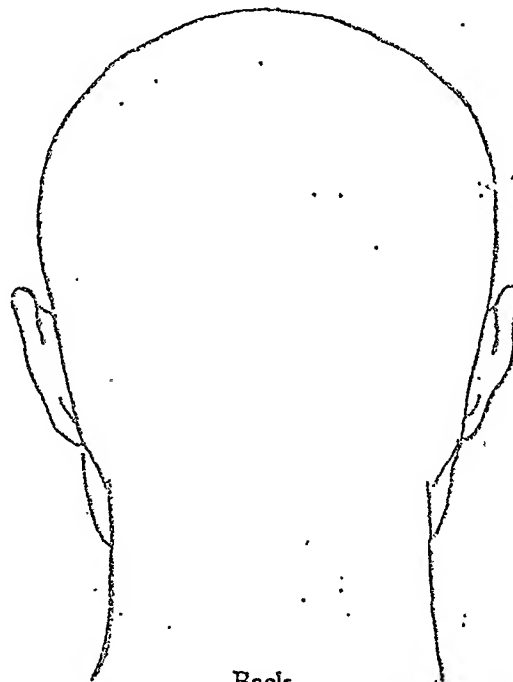
Hematolymphatic System-Microscopically the lymph nodes are within normal limits. The spleen shows almost total depletion of the sinusoidal erythrocytic reserves. The lymphoid architecture is unremarkable. The bone marrow is adequately cellular and shows normal, orderly maturation of both the erythrocytic and granulocytic series. Megacariocytes are active and apparently functional.

Central Nervous System-Early minor acute perivascular edematous changes are seen. There is no contusion, hemorrhage, infarction or evidence of pre-existing central nervous system disease.

BODY DIAGRAM-HEAD



Front



Back

Decedent's Name

KAREN GAY SILKWOOD

Examined

By

A. JAY CHAPMAN

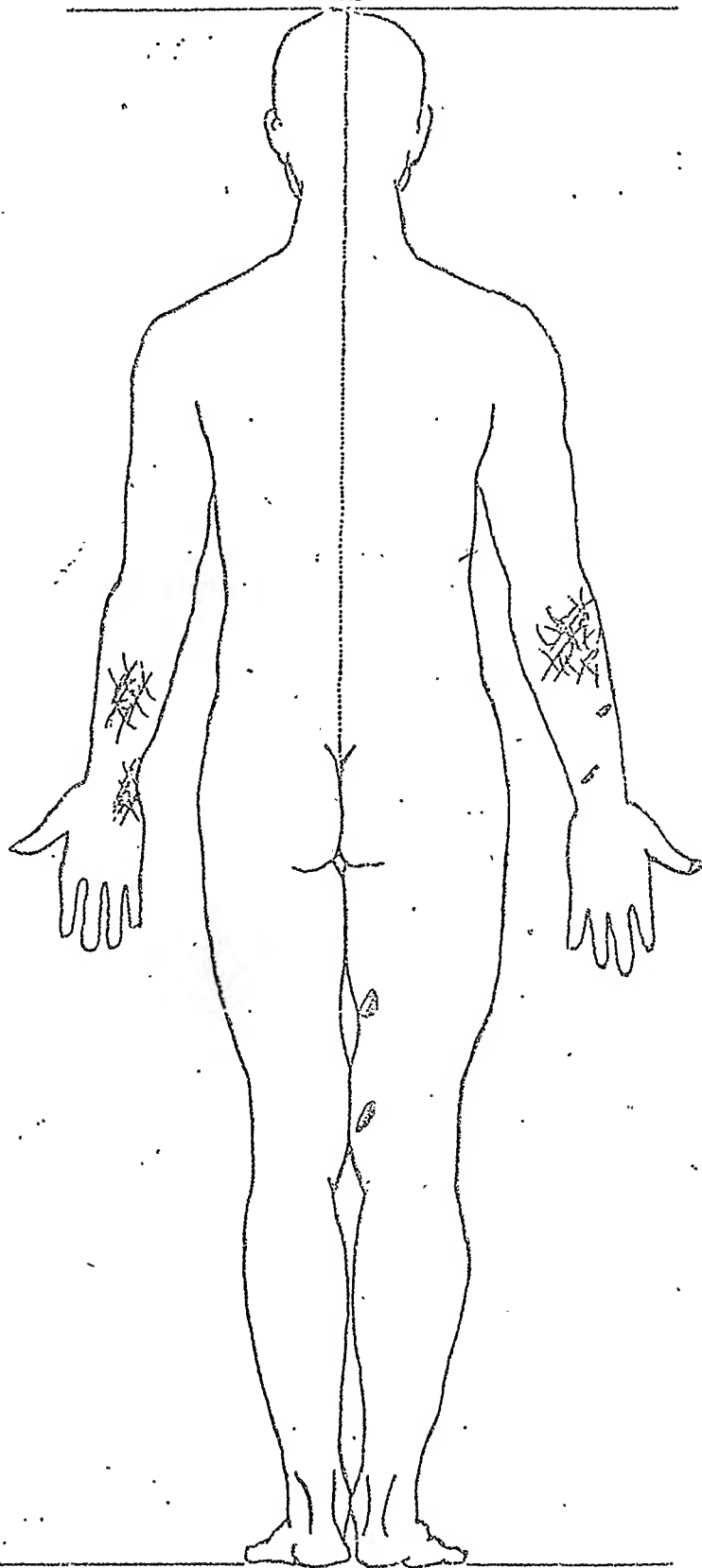
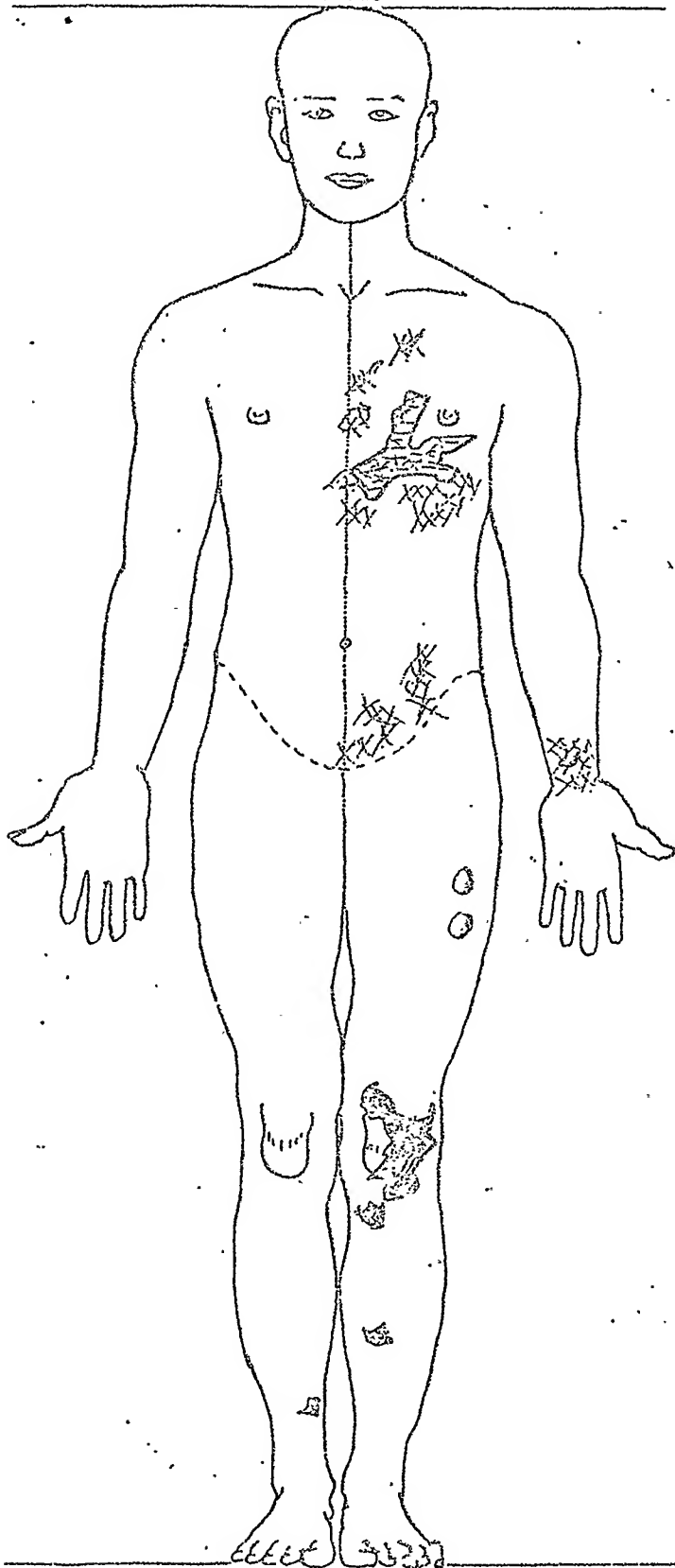
Date

11/14/74

BODY DIAGRAM

Front

Back



Decedent's Height 64 inches

Name KAREN GAY SILKWOOD

Examined

By A. JAY CHAPMAN

Date 11/14/74

XXX — PATTERNED ABRASIONS  
 XXX — (CONTUSION)  
 — LACERATIONS.

OC. 159-45  
12

BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Box 26901  
800 Northeast 13th Street, 4-B  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73190

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND  
CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

A. JAY CHAPMAN, M.D. DATED NOV 28 1974

CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

By *[Signature]*

REPORT OF LABORATORY ANALYSIS

NAME: Silkwood, Karen Gay

LABORATORY NO. 741565

MATERIAL SUBMITTED: Blood, Gastric Contents, Bile,  
Urine, Brain, Kidney, Liver and  
Small Vial Containing Yellow and Blue Tablets

DATE RECEIVED: November 15, 1974

SUBMITTED BY: A. Jay Chapman, M.D.

MEDICAL EXAMINER: Robert Ringrose, M.D.

RESULTS:

Blood:

Ethyl Alcohol - Trace (less than 0.02% w/v)

Methaqualone - 0.35 milligrams/100 ml

Barbiturates - Negative

Chlordiazepoxide - Negative

Diazepam - Negative

Liver:

Methaqualone - 1.08 milligrams/100 grams

Gastric Contents (118 grams submitted for analyses):

Methaqualone - 49.53 milligrams present in total specimen received

Urine:

Ethyl Alcohol - Trace (less than 0.02% w/v)

November 18, 1974

Date of Report

*[Signature]*  
RICHARD W. PROUTY  
CHIEF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGIST

Please Note: Unless notified in writing to the contrary, the specimen(s) submitted in this case will be discarded at the end of 30 days.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 12/5/74

[redacted] Oklahoma City, was contacted at his office. He was advised of the official identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview. He furnished the following information:

b6  
b7C

[redacted] stated that he was KAREN G. SILKWOOD's physician from November 28, 1973, until November 4, 1974. His records reflect that SILKWOOD was single, worked nights, and slept during the day. On October 25, 1974, [redacted] saw SILKWOOD and prescribed Qualude (Methaqualone) to assist her in sleeping. The prescription was for 30 tablets of 300 milligram Qualude and was to be taken upon retiring. The prescription could not be refilled, but after 30 days SILKWOOD could return and have another prescription written.

[redacted] records reflect that he saw SILKWOOD on November 1, 1974, regarding minor neck pains as a result of a previous auto accident. She was seen again for a follow-up examination on November 4, 1974.

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b7C

91

Interviewed on 12/2/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # 159-45 Oklahoma City

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/3/74



OC 159-45

V. INVESTIGATION REGARDING OCTOBER 31, 1974 ACCIDENT

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 12/11/74

1

[redacted] born [redacted]  
 [redacted] Missouri, who resides at [redacted]  
 [redacted] of Martin's Auto  
 Salvage and Repair, 2400 South Division, Guthrie, Oklahoma,  
 telephone number 282-1406, was interviewed at his place of  
 business. [redacted] advised as follows:

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He has been in business three years at this location. He operates a wrecker service in connection with his business under a "Corporation Commission of Oklahoma Wrecker and Towing License" number 26329W, effective January 25, 1974.

[redacted] exhibited a pink copy of a bill of lading, number 1416, dated October 31, 1974, which bears the caption "Martin's 24 Hour Wrecker Service, 2400 S. Division, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044, Tel. 282-1406 or 282-3022" which document shows the following data:

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Vehicle	Honda
Tag number	YF 8261
Payment	Cash
Location	Five miles west on 33
Remarks	Pulled car from ditch
	\$8.00; five miles \$5.00;
	Total amount \$13.00
Truck number	2 (which [redacted] said is
	a GMC truck, 1973 model,
	blue with yellow trim)

[redacted] advised that he initialed this document as "GEO" for his first name [redacted]. The bottom of the form showed the answer of no to the following questions on this printed form:

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b7C

Round trip?  
 Use of dolly?

93

Interviewed on 12/3/74 at Guthrie, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [redacted] b6  
 b7C Date dictated 12/6/74

Was vehicle wrecked?  
Was vehicle damaged?  
Was vehicle loaded?  
Perishables?

It is noted this form bore a space for customer signature, however, none was shown.

[ ] advised that this document was in connection with the Honda vehicle believed owned by KAREN SILKWOOD which he said he pulled from a ditch five miles west of Guthrie on State Highway 33 at about 1:30 P.M. on October 31, 1974, at which time SILKWOOD paid him in cash in the amount of \$13.00 for his services.

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[ ] advised that SILKWOOD called him by telephone between 9:00 and 10:00 A.M., on October 31, 1974, and asked him to meet her at the car's location at 1:30 P.M., on October 31, 1974, in order to tow it from the ditch. In this telephone conversation she said she slid off the highway into a ditch "five miles west of Guthrie on 33 highway".

He said it was his understanding that the vehicle ran into the ditch at a time when SILKWOOD was returning home from work and that she had been confronted by a cow on the highway and in order to avoid the cow, lost control of the car, spun in 180 degree turn and went backwards into the ditch on the wrong side of the highway coming to rest with the right-hand taillight against a fence post breaking the dome type lens in the taillight.

[ ] said that this was the only damage sustained to the car. He said the housing containing the light was not bent or damaged and he could see the point of impact of the lens on the fence post at the time he pulled the car from the ditch. He said that when the car was retrieved from the ditch he and SILKWOOD and a male friend that was with her who apparently had driven her to the scene of the accident, carefully looked over the car for any damage and as stated above the only damage they observed was the the taillight lens.

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b7C

[ ] said that on October 31, 1974, he had not observed any personal effects or material inside this

b6  
b7C

vehicle for the reason that he had no reason to examine anything within the car as his concern had primarily been with whether or not there had been any damage to the exterior of the car when it ran into the ditch and when he towed it from the ditch back onto the highway. He said in order to pull the car from the ditch it was necessary to ask SILKWOOD to unlock the car in order to turn the wheels and secure the steering wheel with a rope by means of tying a rope to the steering wheel and then closing the other end of the rope in the door jamb. This was necessary to keep the wheels straight for towing the vehicle from the ditch. He said in towing the car out of the ditch in that incident, he hooked his cable underneath the car on a rear suspension bar making the attachment of the tow cable on the inside of the tow bar towards the center of the vehicle. [ ] stated that he was certain that he did not damage SILKWOOD's car in any manner in towing it from the ditch on October 31, 1974. [ ] advised that in his examination of her car on that date he did not recall finding any paint scratches or dents on the exterior of the car which he said was a "kind of blue color", two-door vehicle, of the station wagon type or style, "as I remember".

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[ ] advised that he did not observe anything unusual in SILKWOOD's physical condition on October 31, 1974. He said she seemed to be very alert.

[ ] said the individual who was with SILKWOOD was a white male, in his mid or late 20's, long blond hair, approximately 5'10"-6', slender build, approximately 145-150 pounds, fair complexioned, wearing a pair of slacks and shirt.

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[ ] further advised concerning the accident where SILKWOOD slid into the ditch, he would estimate it was about 40-50 feet from the shoulder of the highway to where the car came to rest against the fence post. He said her direction of travel was east and the car had come to

rest north of the highway. The highway was concrete, two lane divided, and [ ] further advised he did not observe any marks in the concrete on the highway on October 31, 1974.

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[ ] said that SILKWOOD did not inform him of the time when she ran off the highway, but merely indicated she was going from work to her home. [ ] noted that there was a ravine before the area where she reported she had skidded and the highway at that point was a fill area. He said he did not note the condition of the tread on her tires. He said he assumed she was alone when she skidded and went into the ditch, however, she did not so state.

Subsequently [ ] showed the area where SILKWOOD had slid into the ditch on Highway 33 to a Lieutenant of the Highway Patrol and to Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) Trooper [ ] on November 23, 1974. He said he did not recall the Lieutenant's name but the Lieutenant was a Negro male. He said he showed the area to them on November 23, 1974, at around 5:00 P.M. He said he established this date from a record he has maintained which shows that on that date he was engaged in delivering a vehicle to an individual in Crescent, Oklahoma, and the site of SILKWOOD's skid into the ditch was on his route to Crescent. He said he pointed out to the OHP officers on that date the exact location from which he towed the vehicle and pointed out to them the fence post which the car had struck and pointed out some of the broken glass from the taillight lens still at the scene. [ ] stated that in fact the fence post was broken and the bottom of the post was still hanging in the fence wire.

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[ ] advised additionally that on the night that KAREN SILKWOOD was killed in a subsequent automobile accident he was on his way home from his place of business and the Guthrie Police Department was trying to get hold of him by radio. [ ] noted that he has radio communication in his wrecker with the Guthrie Police Department and the Logan County Sheriff's Office. [ ]

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b7C

said that he walked into the Guthrie Police Station and was informed by Captain [ ] that District 1 of the OHP had called indicating that a party was trapped in a car in an accident one mile south of Highway 33 on Highway 74 and [ ] was to get there as fast as he could. [ ] said that he left the police station immediately, driving his wrecker, and as he proceeded to the scene of the accident he was in view of Guthrie Fire Department ambulance which was proceeding ahead of him. There were two men in the ambulance, but [ ] did not get close enough to the ambulance to determine who they were. [ ] said that he got as far as five miles west of Guthrie on Highway 33 and was advised by radio by the Guthrie Police Department that he was to turn back and return to Guthrie. The police department advising a wrecker from Crescent, Oklahoma, had been obtained to take care of the wreck. [ ] said that he did as instructed, turning around, returning to Guthrie, and went home and thought nothing more of the matter at that time.

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[ ] advised that the Guthrie Fire Department ambulance, to the best of his knowledge, is a Chevrolet van-type ambulance, is city owned, and is red and white or orange and white in color.

b6  
b7C

Concerning interviews regarding KAREN SILKWOOD's skidding into the ditch on or about October 31, 1974, [ ] advised that he has been interviewed by the following:

[ ] of Channel 5 News, Oklahoma City.

A Negro Lieutenant and Trooper [ ] of the OHP.

A brief interview by two men from the Atomic Energy Commission whose names [ ] said he does not recall.

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b7C

Two men from Kerr McGee Corporation.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/5/74

[redacted] Allstate Insurance, 4705 Northwest Highway, Oklahoma City, was contacted at his office. He was advised of the official identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview. He furnished the following information:

b6  
b7C

[redacted] advised that Allstate claim number 16F88344 for KAREN SILKWOOD, 908 North Washington, Apartment 2, Edmond, Oklahoma, dated November 2, 1974, reflects the following:

Car year	1973
Make	Honda Civic
Model	2-door
Insured car damage	Right rear side
Date of loss	October 31, 1974
Time of loss	1:15 am
Location of loss	Highway 33, five miles west of Guthrie, Oklahoma
Description of loss	Insured swerved to miss cow on road and ran off into ditch

Allstate estimate dated November 2, 1974, claim number 16F88344 for KAREN SILKWOOD on a 1973 Honda Civic, white, odometer 35,167, identification number 1014541, license number YF-8261, reflects the following description of repairs:

1. Replace rear bumper;
2. Replace rear bumper arms;
3. Replace rear deflector;
4. Repair rear body panel
5. Replace right tag lamp assembly;
6. Replace right tail lamp assembly;
7. Repair right quarter panel

This estimate reflects the following estimated costs for the above repairs:

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Interviewed on 12/27/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [redacted] b6 Date dictated 12/3/74  
b7C

2  
OC 159-45

Labor	\$ 73.80
Paint sublet	56.00
Parts	93.62
Tax	<u>2.81</u>
Total	\$226.23
Less deductible	<u>\$100.00</u>
Net total	\$126.23

The estimate reflects Whitfield Volkswagen as the repair shop. [ ] advised that the Adjustor's Inspection Report dated November 4, 1974, reflects May Avenue Dodge, to do repairs, paint rear body panel and right quarter.

b6  
b7C

[ ] advised that Allstate records reflect that Allstate paid \$146.23 on November 4, 1974, by check payable to KAREN SILKWOOD and May Avenue Bank, Oklahoma City.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 12/6/74

[redacted] BOB SHULL Volkswagen, (Formerly Whitfield Volkswagen), 5600 Northwest 39th, Oklahoma City, was contacted at his office. He was advised of the official identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview. He furnished the following information:

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b7C

[redacted] stated he is familiar with KAREN SILKWOOD. He stated that she was dating [redacted] who is an employee at the body shop. Approximately four or five days before SILKWOOD's fatal accident, she brought her Honda Civic into the body shop for an estimate of repairs on damage caused by an earlier accident. [redacted] described her automobile as a 1973 or 1974 Honda Civic, two-door, white in color.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] drew up the estimate for the repairs of damage to her car. [redacted] stated he observed the damage and described it as being damage on the rear of the car, right of center. He stated that it needed a new taillight assembly on the right side, a new bumper, and that the gravel deflector was damaged. [redacted] stated that to his knowledge these repairs were not made prior to SILKWOOD's fatal accident.

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b7C

[redacted] stated that he has seen SILKWOOD's automobile since her fatal accident. He said that he observed new damage to the left rear of the car which was not there when it was brought in earlier for the estimate. He said he knows the whereabouts of the car but declined to furnish that information. He said he feels this information should be obtained from another source. He said he feels [redacted] will be willing to furnish that information.

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b7C

100

Interviewed on 12/2/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/3/74

OC 159-45

b6  
b7C

VI. INTERVIEWS WITH

[REDACTED]

AND

[REDACTED]

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 12/6/74

[redacted]  
[redacted] was contacted at Bob Shull's Volkswagen, (formerly Whitfield Volkswagen), 5600 Northwest 39th, Oklahoma City, where he is employed in the body shop. He was advised of the official identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview. He furnished the following information:

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[redacted] stated that he was very close to KAREN SILKWOOD and dated her off and on for approximately two years before her death.

[redacted] stated in regard to the damage to SILKWOOD's auto resulting from an accident on or about October 31, 1974, SILKWOOD brought her car, a 1973 Honda Civic, two-door, white in color, to the Whitfield Volkswagen body shop on or about November 1, 1974, to obtain an estimate of repairs. [redacted] stated he wrote the estimate for the repairs for her. He said the damage to her car at that time was as follows:

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b7C

1. Right rear quarter wrinkled;
2. Right taillight assembly broken;
3. Bumper creased approximately 2" deep, right of center;
4. Back panel around the license tag damaged including the light tag lamp assembly and sheet metal wrinkled.

The estimate for the repair was approximately \$300. [redacted] stated that the damage was not repaired prior to her fatal accident. [redacted] said that he now has SILKWOOD's car and it is located at BOB IVINS' residence, 5818 Northwest 33rd, Oklahoma City. He stated that there is additional damage to the left rear of the car which was not present at the time he wrote the above estimate.

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b7C

102

Interviewed on 12/2/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # 159-45 Oklahoma City

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/3/74

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 12/6/74

[redacted] Lynn Hickey  
Dodge, (formerly May Avenue Dodge), 4025 North May, Oklahoma  
City, was contacted at his office. He furnished the following  
information:

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b7C

[redacted] advised that the body shop records reflect no  
records identifiable with KAREN G. SILKWOOD and stated that to  
his knowledge the body shop has made no repairs on her 1973  
Honda Civic.

103

Interviewed on 12/2/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45  
by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 12/3/74

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

On December 2, 1974, SA [ ] telephonically contacted [ ] at his residence, [ ] telephone [ ] in [ ] an effort to set up an appointment with [ ]. An appointment was made for 6:30 pm on December 3, 1974, at [ ] residence.

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SA [ ] met [ ] at the appointed time. [ ] identified himself to [ ] and indicated to [ ] the nature of the current investigation. [ ] advised that the wrecked Honda automobile in which KAREN SILKWOOD was killed was not at his residence, but was at a location in Northwest Oklahoma City and offered to take SA [ ] there.

Enroute to the location, [ ] indicated that prior to the examination of the car, that he desired to return to his residence where he wanted the interview between SA [ ] and himself to take place, inasmuch as he had various papers and tape recorder. He stated that he wanted to record the interview.

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b7C

SA [ ] thereafter explained in additional detail the nature of the investigation, [ ] status as a witness and the fact that the circumstances of any interview would not be dictated by [ ]. [ ] thereafter indicated that if he could not record the interview, he desired to have another person present at the interview such as a friend or better yet, an attorney of his choice. [ ] was informed by SA [ ] that this also would be unacceptable to SA [ ].

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b7C

[ ] advised that he was not being hostile or argumentative, but was merely following advice that had been given to him in regard to any interviews relative to the SILKWOOD matter. He advised that he had no objections in showing SA [ ] the car and he would check and receive further instruction relative to any possible interview.

104

12/2-4/74

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oklahoma City 159-45

Interviewed on

SA [ ]

b6

File #

b7C

12/9/74

by

Date dictated

2  
OC 159-45

SA [ ] and [ ] proceeded to [ ]  
[ ] which location was a private  
residence with an attached garage. SA [ ] was advised  
that this was the residence of a co-worker of [ ]  
[ ]

b6  
b7C

At this location, SA [ ] examined a white  
'1973 Honda. During the course of the examination, SA  
OLSON partially overheard [ ] placing a telephone  
call in the kitchen just off from the garage. At the  
conclusion of the car examination, SA [ ] asked [ ]  
[ ] what the result of his instructions were and [ ]  
[ ] advised that he had been in telephonic contact  
with [ ] in Washington, D. C. who advised him that  
the union preferred that he, [ ] have an attorney  
present for any type of FBI interview. SA [ ] again  
indicated to [ ] that this was an unacceptable  
condition for actual interview, however, in the event that  
[ ] had any information he wished to furnish the  
FBI, the FBI would accept this information. [ ]  
was also advised that the conditions he set forth in regard  
to the interview would be brought to the attention of the  
U. S. Attorney and that the U. S. Attorney could cause  
[ ] to be called before a grand jury to furnish them  
information relative to the current investigation.

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b6  
b7C

On the morning of December 4, 1974, [ ]  
telephonically contacted SA [ ] to advise that he would  
be available that day for interview and he was not making  
any conditions relative to the terms of the interview.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/10/74

[redacted]  
[redacted] Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

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She is employed as an analyst at the Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC), Nuclear Facility, located near Crescent, Oklahoma. As of January 2, 1975, she will have been working for the company one year. [redacted] advised she can be contacted through her parents. [redacted] who live [redacted] on a farm road. She was the roommate of KAREN SILKWOOD, who is now deceased. She and KAREN shared an apartment located at 908 North Washington, Apartment #2, Edmond, Oklahoma, and shared the apartment with KAREN for about two months prior to KAREN's death. She was not really what one would call a close friend of KAREN's. They shared the apartment for mutual convenience. Prior to moving in with KAREN, she was living at home and wanted to get away and was anticipating attending Central State University (CSU) in Edmond. About this time KAREN had a fight with her boyfriend, [redacted]. [redacted] lived in a house on [redacted]. KAREN lived there with him. [redacted] stated she believes they truly loved one another but they both were coming off a divorce and apparently had decided to both remain "free." From time to time either KAREN or [redacted] would do something, such as go out with someone else to demonstrate their freedom.

b6  
b7Cb6  
b7C

106

Interviewed on 12/5/74 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # OKLAHOMA CITY 159-45  
by SA [redacted] b6 Date dictated 12/9/74  
b7C

KAREN spent very little time at the apartment and almost every night was at [redacted] She would see KAREN only infrequently at best, inasmuch as they worked different shifts - KAREN worked days and she worked "graveyards."

KAREN was very much a union-oriented person; however, [redacted] stated she [redacted] was not a union-oriented person, has not joined the union, and is not thinking about joining the union. When KAREN would try to discuss company and union problems with her, she would simply turn KAREN off and say there were more important things to talk about. Therefore, KAREN and she would not even discuss topics in this area, let alone KAREN confiding in her concerning any important information relative to the company and union. [redacted] stated she is aware of the fact that KAREN did not fully trust her and certainly would not disclose to her any union secrets.

b6  
b7C

KAREN's boyfriend, [redacted] would not discuss union affairs with KAREN. [redacted]

b6  
b7C

On the evening of November 12, 1974, [redacted], KAREN, and she returned from Los Alamos, New Mexico, where they were examined at the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) facility in regard to a contamination incident. They got back into town sometime around 11:00 p.m. and the three of them briefly stopped by a night club to pick up a friend of hers. Thereafter the four of them went to DREW's house where they all spent the night. [redacted]

b6  
b7C

She got up the next morning about the same time KAREN did and briefly saw her at the house. During this time she did not observe KAREN drink any other alcoholic beverage.



She and KAREN went to the plant that morning in their respective cars. KAREN went into union negotiations and she [ ] met with AEC representatives. She did not see KAREN afterwards. She can not really say if KAREN on the morning of November 13, 1974, was high or low emotionally because of her limited contact; however, the previous evening KAREN was perhaps more relaxed than any time that she had seen KAREN. KAREN had been very distraught over her contamination and apparently thought she was going to die as a result. The physical they took, however, in New Mexico put KAREN's true physical condition in proper perspective and thus relieved KAREN considerably.

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She has no personal knowledge concerning KAREN's fatal car accident. Her first impression upon hearing about the accident was that KAREN possibly committed suicide but when she later heard that KAREN's car might have been forced off the road, she could see something like that happening too. Just what happened, she does not know. She has absolutely no suspects in the matter if there was truly foul play. She never heard KAREN say that she was in fear of her life; that is, she never said that she thought any member of the company, an ex-girlfriend of [ ] or any other person was after her.

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She knew that KAREN and [ ] had a meeting set up with a union representative, [ ] for the evening of November 13, 1974, but she did not know the purpose of the meeting. She did not know that a New York Times reporter was supposed to be at this meeting. She thought that the meeting was to be at [ ] house so she went over to [ ] house about 7:00 p.m. on November 13, 1974, and found no one there. She thereafter left after waiting briefly.

She knew that KAREN had been going around picking up information regarding the health situation at the Crescent plant, but did not know anything else about KAREN's activities. She did not know that KAREN had made any allegations concerning falsification of fuel rod records.

About October 31, 1974, KAREN was involved in a wreck between Guthrie and the plant. KAREN said a cow had been out on the road and she went off the road when she tried to get around the cow. KAREN wrecked the back end of her car at that time. Another employee of the plant,

[ ] who came to work just a short time prior to when KAREN called about the accident, said she too had seen a cow on the road at about the place where KAREN indicated the wreck had occurred. KAREN told her that she tried to flag down a couple of cars but was unsuccessful in doing so. She walked back to her car and "took a pill" and walked to a nearby farmhouse from where she called. She does not know anything about KAREN having been prescribed sleeping pills at this time.

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However, on November 10, 1974, Dr. [ ] who was examining them at Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City, gave them both a prescription for Valium for their nerves. He made only one prescription in KAREN's name. She obtained two of the pills while KAREN got the rest. She does not know if KAREN received any other medication by prescription at Los Alamos, New Mexico, thereafter.

If KAREN stole some nuclear material from KMC, she certainly would not have told her [ ] because KAREN knows that she would have turned her in. She is totally afraid of Plutonium and certainly would not have stood for KAREN ever bringing any Plutonium or other radioactive material into their apartment.

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If KAREN had stolen some material from the plant it would seem that she would have had a better idea of the nature of her contamination problem, but she acted very concerned and during the examination at the Baptist Hospital, she told her [ ] that she had radioactive material in her lungs and was breathing it out into the atmosphere.

She does not think that if KAREN had stolen any material she would have dared told [ ] because she believes that [ ] would not go along with such an irresponsible act. She feels that if KAREN did steal some nuclear material, she did it on her own.

She has no information whatsoever which would indicate that KAREN was salting her urine and fecal samples with radioactive material.

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She was at the apartment on November 7, 1974, when the apartment was being checked for contamination. She was present at the discovery of [ ]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She never observed [REDACTED] or

KAREN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She certainly would not be surprised to learn that [REDACTED] and KAREN used marijuana. In her opinion, however, [REDACTED]

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The first night that KAREN had spent at the apartment in a good long while, was the evening of November 6, 1974. She spent the night with [REDACTED]. They may have also spent the previous night there but she is not sure since she worked. On Wednesday night they were sharing a pizza at the apartment when KAREN casually mentioned that she had gotten contaminated the day before. She did not pick up on KAREN's remark and nothing was further said about the matter.

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She was at the apartment Thursday morning and just got home when KAREN called and said some people were coming to the apartment to check it for contamination. She could not believe the remark KAREN made and just went to bed. Later on that afternoon, however, the apartment was checked and determined to be contaminated. It was also determined that she had surface contamination herself.

To her knowledge, KAREN never broke down to such a point that she was crying in regard to her contamination. KAREN did act as if she were truly concerned. Her understanding of the contamination incident was that it was a result of there being a leak in the gloves, which were in the glove box KAREN had been working out of. On November 5, 1974, when she learned on November 13, 1974, that the company had apparently found nothing wrong with the gloves, it indicated KAREN was a liar. She believes that it is likely that KAREN was aware of this information prior to the time she died.

Sometime during mid October, 1974, perhaps two weeks before the contamination incident, KAREN made the remark that she was considering taking a vacation [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] does not know for sure but assumed that KAREN was serious when she said this. KAREN had also told her

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that she [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED],

[REDACTED] has no personal knowledge concerning KAREN's allegations about falsification of fuel rod records. KAREN did not keep any documents or papers at the apartment. [REDACTED] felt that if KAREN did keep papers, she would probably have kept them at [REDACTED] house. She does not know of any items, such as papers, notebooks, etc., which might have been missing from KAREN's car after the accident.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 12/9/74

[redacted] furnished the following information:

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He was the boy friend of the late KAREN SILKWOOD. He formerly worked at the Kerr Mc Gee Corporation (KMC) Crescent Nuclear Facility and quit that job in September, 1974.

[redacted].

He had been going with KAREN for most of the time that she was employed at the Crescent Facility and during the time that he was employed at the facility, he was very active in the union affairs. KAREN was also active in the union. KAREN was involved in a contamination incident, which was discovered on or about November 5, 1974 and as a result of that incident, KAREN, her roommate, [redacted] and he all were sent by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to the AEC Facility at Los Alamos, New Mexico for a full body count. They were at Los Alamos during the period of November 10-12, 1974, returning via air to Oklahoma City at about 9:30 pm. They stopped at the Crescendo Club located on N. W. 36th, spending a period of time there, arriving at his residence sometime about 11:00 pm. They drank a little wine that evening.

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[redacted] and KAREN both spent the night at his residence. He saw both girls the next morning before he left for work. He understands that KAREN went to the Crescent Facility. He does not know where [redacted] went that day. KAREN was involved in contract negotiations, which were then ongoing at the Crescent plant.

He and KAREN had previously made arrangements to meet with [redacted] Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) international representative and [redacted] a "New York Times" reporter in reference to allegations concerning falsification of fuel rod records at the Crescent plant. He was to pick up [redacted] at the Oklahoma City airport at 6:00 pm, November 13, 1974 and thereafter pick up [redacted] who was to arrive on a flight a short time later.

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12/4/74 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Oklahoma City 159-45  
Interviewed on \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ File # \_\_\_\_\_  
SA [redacted] b6 12/9/74  
by \_\_\_\_\_ b7C Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

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While he was still at work, just before 6:00 pm, he received a telephone call from KAREN who was then at a union meeting at the Hub Cafe in Crescent. He finalized their plans for the meeting with [ ] and [ ] and KAREN was to meet them at the Holiday Inn Northwest, Oklahoma City. She appeared to be in good spirits at the time of their telephone conversation.

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[ ] and [ ] They had previously made arrangements to meet prior to their going to Los Alamos. He believes that the actual date that the arrangements were made was early on November 10, 1974. KAREN had been gathering data for quite some time on specific falsification incidents relative to the quality controls that were set up to check the fabrication of the plutonium fuel rods made at the Crescent Facility. It is his understanding that her data consisted of the weld numbers of rods that had been passed that were not up to standard, and alphas (x-rays) of the imperfect welds themselves. It is his understanding that she had in her possession an actual negative that had been altered.

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He had not seen any of the documentary information that KAREN had to support her allegations. He did, however, have turned over to him all the papers and documents that were recovered from KAREN's wrecked car. He retained a portion of these items and other items of KAREN's personal property and sent the remainder to her parents in Texas. In conversation with KAREN's family in Texas, he found out they had in their possession something which might have been the negative of which KAREN spoke. This was sent to him by the family and inspection determined that this negative had nothing to do with the altered fuel rod documentation, but related to a fuel rod examination (valid), which took place sometime in December, 1973, which was a time prior to the falsification incidents.

It is his understanding that KAREN had previously had conversations, perhaps in Washington, D.C., and perhaps by telephone with [ ], which [ ] recorded, in which she described the negative which she then apparently had in her possession. He thinks that [ ] may have more specific information as to what material or data KAREN was supposed to have.

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KAREN had also gathered information where she was able to document instances where a supervisor, [ ] recorded raw data and adjusted these figures to conform with acceptable standards. She reportedly had specific times, dates and the numbers of the analysis that had been altered.

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He believes that she had mentioned to [ ] these falsifications in rather general terms, not giving specifics such as times, numbers, etc., and that [ ] had told KAREN to get all of the stuff together in a form that would be useable and it is his impression that this is what KAREN had done and was going to give to [ ] and [ ] at the time of their November 13, 1974 meeting; however, he has never actually seen any of this specific information KAREN was supposed to have.

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He left work at 6:00 pm, went to the airport and met [ ] plane at about 6:40 pm. [ ] came in on a later flight, getting there about 7:20. While the three of them were together in the airport, they saw an AEC employee by the name of [ ] [ ] commented, "I wonder if [ ] recognized me?"

[ ] and [ ] went to the Holiday Inn Northwest and he went there to change clothes. He joined [ ] and [ ] at the motel about 8:15 or 8:30. They decided that KAREN appeared late and called the plant and found that she had left sometime earlier. They had telephone trouble with the room telephone for about 45 minutes and could not complete an outgoing call. Around 9:30 or 10:00, [ ] called [ ] at Crescent who told [ ] that KAREN's car had been towed to a garage in Crescent (after having been wrecked) and that he had gone down to the police department and found that she had been killed.

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[ ] and he immediately thereafter drove to Crescent; while enroute there, they tried to find the scene of the accident, however, could not do so. They went to the Ford garage and could see the car still attached to the wrecker inside the garage. The garage was closed and they could not closely examine the car. Inquiry determined where the accident was located and they went to that scene and looked around for a few minutes and thereafter went to [ ] house. They made a few telephone calls to the hospital and so on, to gather

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additional details concerning KAREN's death. He called KAREN's parents in Texas and got their consent to have an autopsy performed on KAREN. He thereafter went home and to bed while [ ] and [ ] went back to the motel.

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Early the next day, the three of them went to Guthrie, Oklahoma, to talk to Trooper [ ], who conducted the Oklahoma Highway Patrol investigation relative to KAREN's accident. They went thereafter to Crescent, to the Ford garage where KAREN's car had been taken and found that the car was outside the garage. They looked at the car and tried to find the documents that KAREN was bringing to the motel meeting. The man who ran the garage had KAREN's personal belongings, including some papers that had been recovered from the car, boxed up. He called KAREN's parents in Texas and secured their authority to obtain KAREN's personal effects and the car.

They thereafter went through the personal effects, but could not find the documents which would seem to relate to the meeting. He found a folder containing old union papers, another folder consisting of information concerning nuclear hazards and industrial ecology, typewritten union proposals to change the contract and type-written proposals to change the contract from the company. There was a small notebook about four by five inches, which contained old notes. [ ] has this notebook. There was no spiral binder about nine by 11 inches in dimensions, included in this material and there was no material that contained any specifics concerning the allegations of falsification of fuel rod records. He thereafter had the car pulled to its present location in Oklahoma City and he took KAREN's personal effects, most of which he shipped to her parents in Texas. He retained certain papers.

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His immediate thought when he heard of KAREN's accident was that she perhaps met with foul play because KAREN was a very good driver, who drive that same road every day. He and KAREN have participated in several sport car events and he has had numerous opportunities to evaluate her driving skill.



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It appeared to him that her car had gone off the left side of the road at a sharp exit angle and based on his knowledge of her driving skills and her familiarity with the road, he finds this hard to believe that she would have just gone off the road on her own.

He certainly does not suspect that KAREN may have committed suicide as others have suggested, because she was very excited and looking forward to the meeting that they were to have that evening because after a long period of frustration concerning the union-company problems, the safety situation and so on, it appeared to her that at last, something was going to be done. He does not believe that she could have purposely driven into that particular culvert, since it is not visible from the road, therefore, she would not have known that the culvert was located there. Also when he had talked to KAREN earlier that evening, when she called from the union meeting, she sounded fine and in good spirits.

He has no tangible information to support the theory that KAREN met with foul play. The only information he has in this regard is the report made by the independent accident investigator, [redacted] who the union hired. [redacted] said he believed that her car was hit on the left rear bumper by another vehicle, causing her car to go off on the left side of the road. [redacted] theory is primarily based on the bumper damage as he understands it and not on the damage to the corner of the fender below. In regard to the [redacted] theory, he could go along with it or reject it, he just does not know at this time.

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In regard to the methaqualone sleeping pills that KAREN had been taking, this was a prescription drug that had been prescribed to her by her doctor in Oklahoma City, [redacted]. She is under quite a bit of tension and strain and was relying on these pills, not for sleeping pills as such, but she was "dependent on them as downers to keep her head together, that is, she was using them as a sedative and not as a sleeping pill". It is her recollection that she had been dependent on these pills

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for about the last one and one-half months. He is aware of the fact that some toxicologists involved in the investigation have made a big point of the amount of methaqualone in KAREN's system at the time of the accident. He has seen her on numerous occasions when she has been under the influence of these pills and found her to be perhaps a little drowsy, but still very functional. He does not believe that the pills would have impaired her driving ability.

In regard to the minute amount of alcohol found in her blood stream, which some people have taken great note of, he feels that this amount of alcohol would not have impaired her driving ability and was likely a residual amount in her blood stream, resulting from the fact that the evening of November 12, they drank a little wine.

He has no other information that would indicate that KAREN met with foul play from any other sources. He knows of no person, including union officials or KMC employees that have any personal knowledge of KAREN's accident or whose information would support the claims of foul play.

KAREN has taken in the past two years that he has known her, a multitude of prescription drugs for a variety of ailments, including sinus pills, stomach relaxants and etc.

He heard that KMC had dispatched a salaried-employee to go to the scene of KAREN's accident, as soon as the information came out that she had been involved in the accident. He does not know the identity of this employee.

He heard that a Guthrie, Oklahoma, wrecker driver, [redacted] had been dispatched to KAREN's accident and called back while enroute. He finds this most peculiar. Of course the accident was handled by the Ford Garage in Crescent. He talked to [redacted] the garage owner, who actually drove the wrecker that night and he also talked to the helper, [redacted] and from

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his conversations with them, he does not believe that they caused the pertinent damage to the left rear to KAREN's car.

He does not know the names of any other witnesses, including union members who may have been at the scene of the accident.

In regard to KAREN's contamination, he has no reason to suspect that she may have purposely contaminated herself and believes that the contamination was of an accidental type, which occurred on the job. He has no personal knowledge as to how the contamination occurred. KAREN told him that on November 5, 1974, she "check hot" after working in a glove box. Two of the KMC Health Physics people, he understands, checked the box out and found a hole in the glove. KAREN thereafter followed the standard decontamination procedures, scrubbing and so on, and was found to be "clean" after the procedures.

He was at KAREN's apartment Wednesday evening, November 6, 1974. This was the first time he saw her in two days. At this time, she described the November 5, 1974 contamination incident. He spent the night at the apartment with KAREN. KAREN called him on November 7, 1974 and told him that the Health Physics people from the company had checked her apartment and found it to be contaminated. She indicated that [redacted] her roommate and he both needed to be checked to see if they were contaminated too. That evening, he went to KAREN's apartment and found about 20 persons there, including KMC personnel and State Health Department representatives. Of these individuals, several were in the safety uniforms with respirators and they were checking the apartment and its contents for radioactivity. He was checked at this time and he showed no surface contamination.

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He asked some of the people involved in the check as to what kind of levels they were getting. One individual told him that they were getting readings in the area of 400,000 disintegration per minute (dpm). This is a very high level of radioactivity and he became rather upset out of concern for the safety of KAREN and

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others that a contamination of this magnitude at the Crescent Facility could occur. However, he later got additional information that indicated the levels were much lower and he also was upset over this because there was such a variation in the information that people were giving him. Someone was wrong, but he did not know who. He is also upset over the fact that KAREN was not there, no one knew where she was and no one was concerned. He felt that in view of the severity of the problem, that someone should have gotten hold of KAREN and taken care of her.

He thereafter went to his residence in Oklahoma City with the Health Physics people who checked his house and found it not to be contaminated.

Thereafter, KAREN called his next door neighbor's house in a hysterical condition. She was convinced that she was going to die because of the abnormal high body samples that she had submitted earlier that day. He tried to find out her location so that he could come get her, but she would not tell him where she was other than she was in a telephone booth somewhere in Edmond, Oklahoma.

KAREN indicated she was coming to his house, so the only thing he could do was wait for her. While he was waiting, he got a telephone call from [redacted] KAREN had apparently called [redacted] just before. KAREN had related the full nature of the current contamination problem to [redacted] and [redacted] was concerned for KAREN.

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KAREN came in a short time later and he was able to get her calmed down.

He has no definite idea as to how KAREN's apartment got contaminated. He noted that the refrigerator and some of the food therein was highly contaminated and he is aware that the toilet bowl in the bathroom was highly contaminated. He feels that KAREN may have ingested at the plant a radioactive particle and brought it home.

He is sure that the ingestion was accidental and from what he has found out, the amount was very likely a minute sample. KAREN was a mouth breather and therefore, it would be very easy for her to contaminate her stomach, rather than her lungs. From what KAREN said concerning the contamination, she definitely believed that the contamination was tied to a contamination incident at the plant. KAREN felt responsible for bringing the contamination to her apartment and did not think that her roommate, [ ] had been the source of the apartment contamination through [ ] having been involved in a separate contamination incident at the plant. KAREN was aware of the fact that [ ] had checked relatively clean.

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He is also aware that certain allegations have been made against KAREN having salted her body samples with radioactive material. He has no personal knowledge of her having salted her body samples and cannot conceive of her doing such a thing. She came back from her Washington, D.C. trip in late September, 1974, very much more aware than she ever had been concerning the dangers involved in handling radioactive material. She had a healthy respect, almost in fear of radioactive material. He is convinced in his own mind, that she would not try to handle radioactive material on her own outside of the controlled conditions that exist in the laboratory. She certainly would not knowingly bring anything home that was "hot".

During the period of November 7, through November 11, 1974, KAREN was very distraught. She was upset because of the high readings obtained from the body samples that she submitted on November 7, and in her own mind, she was convinced that she was going to die. However, after going through the thorough examination at Los Alamos, she had a better insight into her physical condition and found that she had no "lung burden" and all indications were that her contamination problem was not serious. Her spirits picked up considerably after this.

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In regard to information concerning the alteration of fuel rod records, he has no specific information or personal knowledge in this area. KAREN revealed nothing to him in regard to specifics.

This information was not surprising to him because he had been previously employed at the Crescent Facility and quit because he was disenchanted. He felt "that the place was nothing but a numbers mill" and their quality control procedures would be somewhat questionable. While he was working there, he made no effort to document any derelictions in quality control, which he observed, but he is aware that such things had occurred in the past and would likely occur again. He cannot give any specifics concerning these derelictions.

KAREN was quite upset about the overall situation at the plant, including union-company relations, safety and so on, and he felt that it was best that she not worry about these matters as much as she did. Whenever she would bring anything up concerning KMC, he would cut her off and not let her discuss the matter, for he felt it was better for her to try to put these thoughts aside. This is one reason why he knows as little as he does know concerning KAREN's allegations.

It is his understanding that [ ] has some tapes relative to these allegations. The information contained in the tapes is the information that was previously given to the AEC at the safety meeting in Washington, D.C. and they included some additional telephone conversations from local people who were not in attendance at the meeting. Most of the information that [ ] has, if not all, has previously been given to AEC.

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He had been in contact with KAREN's parents in Texas and found that they had in KAREN's effects, some negatives that may have related to KAREN's allegations concerning alteration of fuel rod documents. This material was sent to him and examination determined that the two negatives pertinent to examinations made in late 1973 and did not relate to the fuel rod falsification matter.

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He never heard KAREN mention the name of a specific individual as having been involved in the fuel rod falsification matter; however, on the evening of December 3, 1974, he received a telephone call from an "Oklahoman" and "Times" reporter, [redacted] that supposedly a former employee by the name of [redacted] [redacted] was involved in the falsification. How [redacted] got this name, he does not know.

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VII. CONTACT WITH USA

On December 4, 1974, and on December 12, 1974, SA [ ] discussed the prosecutive aspects of this matter with U. S. Attorney [ ] Western District of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City. [ ] advised that it would appear that investigation thus far has apparently failed to substantiate the allegations that the SILKWOOD fatal accident was a result of foul play. However, [ ] would like to have the opportunity to study at length the results of the FBI investigation conducted in this matter before making final judgment. He is particularly interested in seeing the results of the investigation conducted by the independent accident investigator, [ ]. He is desirous that the Atomic Energy Commission also furnish the results of their completed investigation to the Department and his office so that consideration can be given to other aspects of the case, such as possible diversion or theft of nuclear material and the merits of the allegations concerning alteration of quality control records of fuel rods.

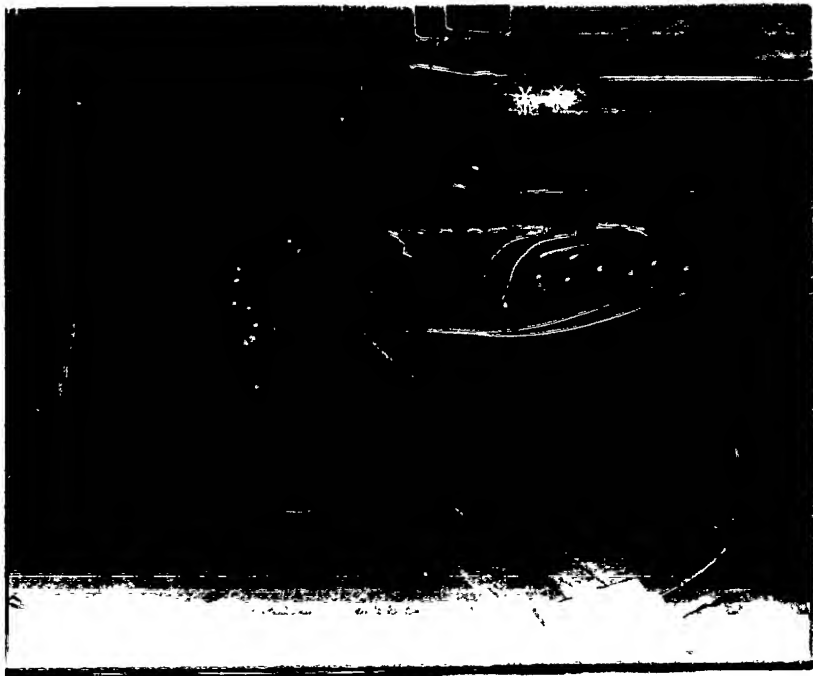
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L/O  
12/3/74

159-4005-6



LD

12/3/74

159-4005-6



View south towards  
culvert along bar  
ditch

159-4005-6

L/D  
12/3/74



L/D  
2/3/74

154-1005-6





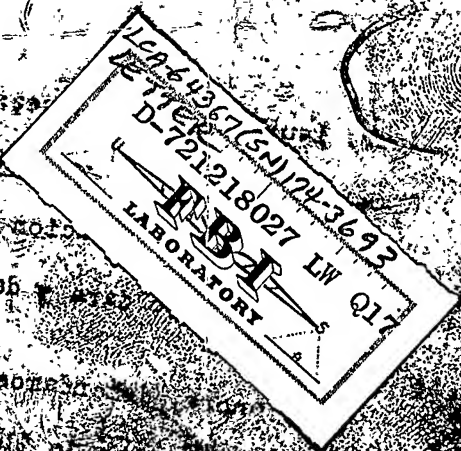
CULVERT

From ~~South~~ <sup>4th</sup> BANK  
NORTH

7/20

12/3/74


159-4005-6





CULVERT FROM  
SOUTH BANK

159-4005-6

  
12/3/74



View south towards  
culvert along bar  
ditch

159-4005-6

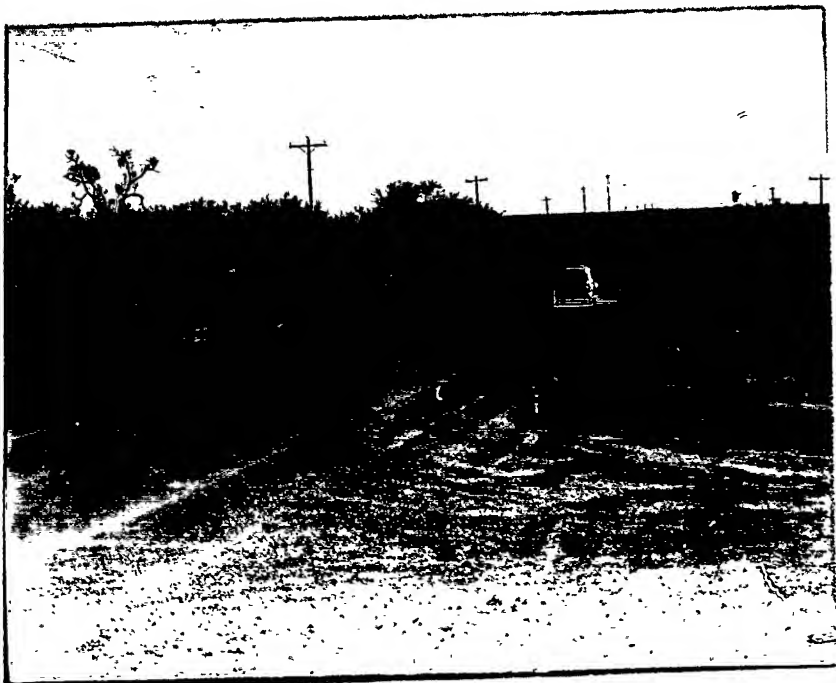
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LD  
12/3/74

159-4005-6



View South (towards  
culvert) <sup>from</sup> SH 74  
AND SECTION LINE  
ROAD

159-4005-6

LP  
12/3/74



2/10  
12/3/74

159-4005-16



View south towards  
culvert along bar  
ditch

159-4005-6

L/O  
12/3/74





L/O  
12/3/74

154-4005-6



L/D  
12/3/74

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CULVERT

159-4005-6

LP  
12/3/74



CULVERT

from ~~South~~ BANK  
NORTH

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CULVERT

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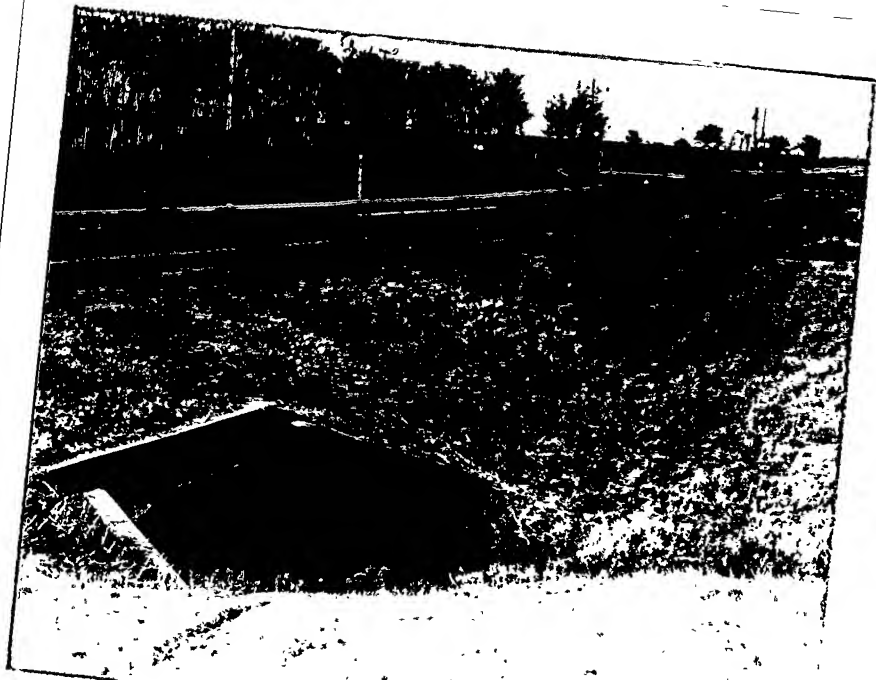
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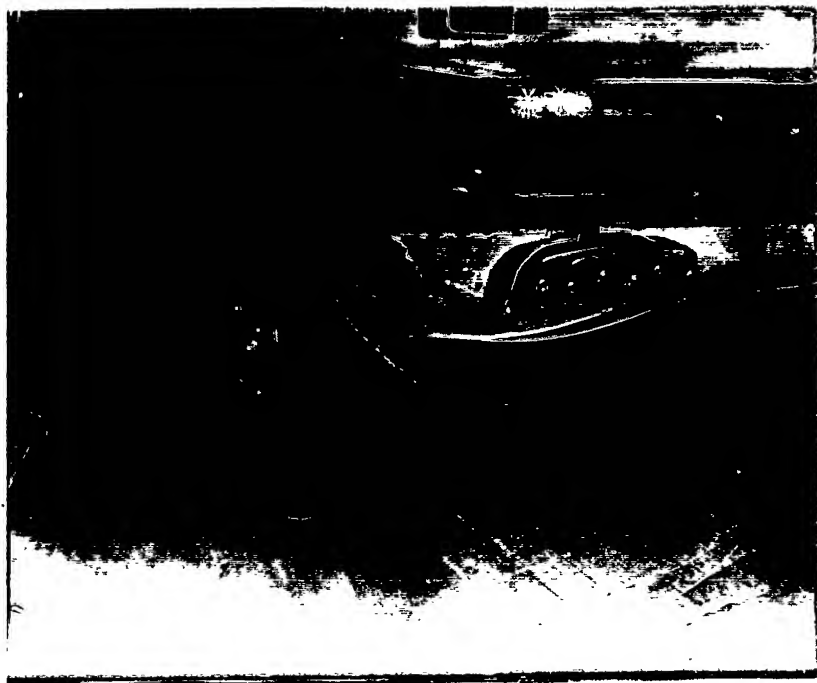
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~~BB~~  
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RD  
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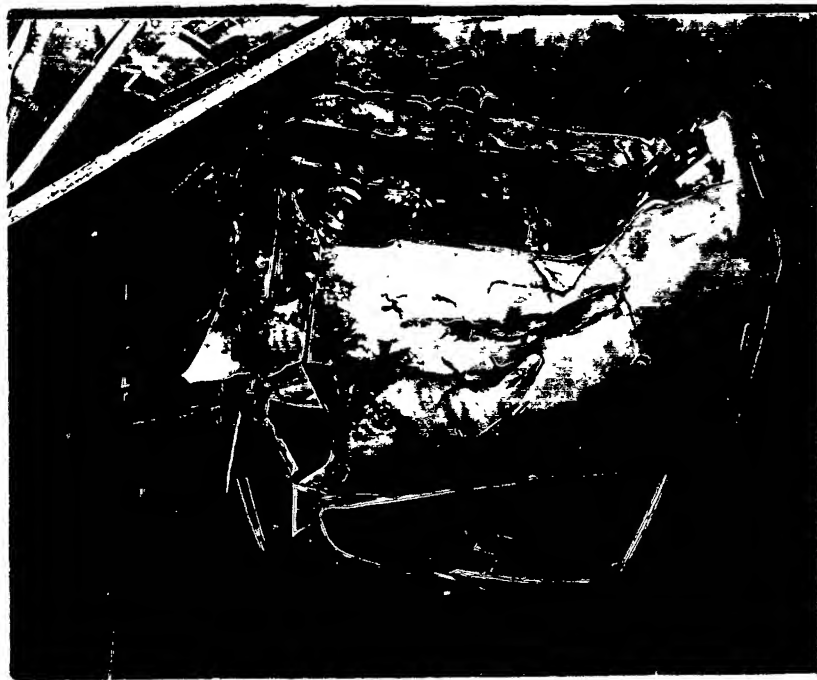
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RD  
12/3/74

159-4005-6

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Q-1



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45)

Date: December 23, 1974

From: Director, FBI

Re: UNSUBS; @  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

FBI File No.

Lab. No. PC-1420

Examination requested by: Oklahoma City

Reference: Airtel 12/11/74

Examination requested: Instrumental

Remarks:

Specimens Q1 and Q2 are being returned to your office under separate cover by registered mail.

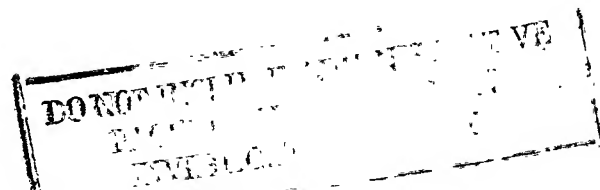
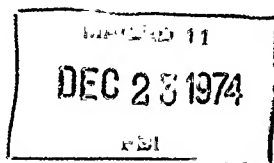
b6  
b7C

REC-37

159-4-27

ENCLOSURE

DEC 26 1974



Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

Deleted Copy Sent

By Letter Dated 5-16-76, 5-10-76  
Per FOIPA Request re K. Silkwood

b6  
b7C

U.N./csi (4)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DEC 23 1974

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

DEC 24 9 25 AM '74

F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

DEC 24



REPORT  
of the

1-Office, 7135

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Oklahoma City

Date: December 23, 1974

Re: UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma CityFBI File No.  
Lab. No. PC-L4261 MW

Specimens received 12/16/74

Q1 Paint from dented area of Honda  
Q2 Scrapings from bumper of Honda

## Result of examination:

The Q1 specimen from the dented area of the Honda contained paint particles exhibiting the following layer structure:

1. White enamel
2. Gray primer

The Q2 specimen from the bumper of the Honda contained one paint particle that matched those of Q1 in colors, textures, layer structure and types.

No significant material or paint which could be identified as foreign to the two-layered paint particles was found in Q1 or Q2.

DWH/esl (4)

7-2  
RECORDED  
12/17/74  
csi.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: ~~INSIDE~~ UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

File # 159-4005-7  
Lab.# PC-L4261 MW

Airtel 12/11

Examination requested by: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45)

Examination requested:

Date received: 12/16 hw

Result of Examination: Instr (Spec)

Examination by:

b6  
b7c

Specimens:

Q1 Paint from dent area OF HONDA  
Q2 SCRAPINGS ~~Paint~~ from bumper OF HONDA

John  
DWN/csl  
12/23/74

1.

78C-L 4261 MR  
FBI OKLAHOMA CITY

NOTES

Q1 - Paint from dent area of Honda - (1973 ATF)

Many Contain p.p. w/ f.f. l.s.

only  1.) WHITE ENAMEL  
2.) GRAY PRIMER

Chlor, acet, digi - neg. (→ tarsin)

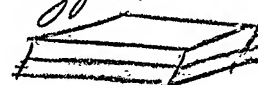
Surface of some have orange soil (as rep'ed in H+O & is neg. rest. test).

Surface of some are smeared w/ orange smears. But, can't ID, but it is from the Honda primer. Chlor, acet, digi - neg. (→ tarsin)

Surface of a few have dark brown asphalt like mat. that diss in chlor. + acet. neg.

There are 3 p.p. that have dark smears on surface + 2 chips are held together at 1 sm. get. by a little pressure. These smears are too thin + limited to identify the nature of this material. Nothing else of apparent significance found in Q1.

Q2 - Scraps from bumper of Honda -

Contain a few soil particles + 1 chip (sm.) v to Q1 in color, texture, l.s. + type. (Some b.c. + micron). No other paint present.  1.) WHITE EN.  
2.) GRAY PRIMER

Concl: No paint other than 2 l. white & gray p.p. identified in Q1 & Q2. Nothing of apparent significance found in Q1 or Q2.

12/16

F B I

Date: 12/11/74

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) (P)

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City*PC-2 4261 MW*  
*Labrup csl*  
*DWN*  
*12/23/74*Re Oklahoma City airtel to the Bureau, 11/27/74,  
and Bureau airtel to Oklahoma City, 11/21/74.Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is one film  
cassette container and one purple pill box. Enclosed  
for WFO is "New York Times" article of 11/19/74, and  
telegram of [REDACTED]b6  
b7cFor the information of the Bureau and WFO,  
Oklahoma City has conducted extensive investigation  
relative to captioned case in the immediate Oklahoma  
City area. Contact with local leaders and members of the  
Oil, Gas, and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW)  
in the Oklahoma City vicinity has failed to develop any  
person who has specific information or personal knowledge  
of allegations of possible violations under captioned  
characters.Contact with the deceased's boy friend has  
failed to develop any knowledge of specifics on his part  
as well.[REDACTED] when contacted on 12/3/74,  
would not submit to interview except under his conditions  
including tape recording of interview and/or having an  
attorney present based on instructions received from  
OCAW Legislative Assistant [REDACTED]b6  
b7c

(3) - Bureau (Enc. 2)

2 - WFO (Enc. 2)

2 - Oklahoma City

LJO:pwo

(7)

CARBON COPY

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

OC 159-45

On 12/4/74, after further checks with [ ] [ ] submitted to interview without any restrictions whatsoever.

It is noted that [ ] was one of the two persons with whom the deceased was to meet on the evening of her death (the other being "New York Times" reporter [ ]).

b6  
b7C

It is noted that the telegram over the name of [ ] claims that the union is in possession of tape recordings, records, and other data relative to this case.

Accordingly, it is felt that contact with union officials, including [ ] and [ ] would be helpful and leads in this regard are being set forth below.

Oklahoma City has a pending report in this matter in dictation setting forth results of investigation to date.

On the evening of 12/3/74, SA [ ] at Oklahoma City examined the deceased's vehicle, a 1973 Honda Civic, 2-door sedan, white in color, VIN SBC1014541, bearing 1974 Oklahoma License YF 8261. [ ] stated that damage to left rear corner of car was damage believed by [ ] Independent Accident Investigator hired by union, to be pertinent to [ ] theory of possible foul play in connection with fatal accident. Visual inspection of damage failed to note any particles of paint either on dent or bumper other than white Honda paint. From interviews with wrecker personnel it was learned that car possibly received this damage when wrecker was removing car from culvert. The left rear quarter panel was at one time against wing wall of concrete bridge. It is noted that damage to the car was at a point some 13 to 15" off of ground level at a point below horizontal midline on Honda bumper.

b6  
b7C

Q1  
Film cassette container contains white paint samples from dent area and pill box contains minute quantity of scrapings obtained from bumper. Samples were collected with hard steel tool. //

OC 159-45

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

It is requested that the enclosed material be examined for paint particles and other evidence so that a determination can possibly be made whether or not deceased's car was struck from behind by another vehicle.

LEADS:

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will locate [redacted]  
Legislative Assistant, OCAW, and [redacted]  
Legislative Director, OCAW, 1126 16th Street, Northwest,  
Washington, D.C., and contact them for any pertinent  
information they may have in this case to support their  
allegations concerning violations in areas of captioned  
characters. [redacted] should be asked to specify nature and  
extent of documentary information believed to be in  
possession of deceased for her use in intended meeting  
with [redacted] and [redacted].

b6  
b7C

Airtel

12/24/74

To: SAC, Oklahoma City (159-45)

From: Director, FBI *DEC-72/159-45*

*8*  
1 -

b6  
b7C

UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED);  
LRMDA; OOF  
OO: OC

ReButelcal to Oklahoma City 12/24/74.

This will confirm reButelcal wherein you were advised that on 12/24/74,  Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Operations 4350 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland, telephone 973-7353, contacted FBIHQ relative to a report prepared by AEC concerning captioned matter.  related he desired to brief representatives of the FBI concerning this report on either January 2 or 3, 1975. He requested he be telephonically contacted at the above number so that a definite date and time could be agreed upon.

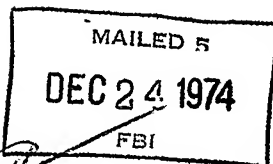
b6  
b7C

NOTE: Retelcal made to L. J. Olson, Oklahoma City by SA

b6  
b7C

ELR:cjl (4)

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_



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by letter dated 5-10-76 *per K. J. [illegible]*

Per FOIA Request *per K. J. [illegible]*

b6  
b7C

MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

F B I

Date: 12/19/74

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) P

RE: UNSUBS; KAREN G. SILKWOOD (Deceased);  
LRMDA; OOJ  
OO:OC

b6  
b7C

Re: Oklahoma City airtel to Bureau 11/27/74;  
Report of SA [redacted] at OC 12/13/74;  
Oklahoma City tel to Bureau 12/17/74 entitled

"SCATTERING OF URANIUM FUEL PELLETS, KERR-MC GEE CORPORATION (KMC),  
CIMARRON FACILITY, CRESCENT, OKLAHOMA, 12/16/74; AEA".

As the Bureau is aware, several allegations stemming from the captioned SILKWOOD case and related matters have arisen, both from the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) and from representatives of the KMC. It has been alleged that SILKWOOD's death was the result of foul play, that KMC was in violation of AEC health-safety standards at the Cimarron Facility, that quality control documents regarding plutonium fuel rods fabricated at the Cimarron facility had been falsified and it has been alleged that some of the contamination incidents at the Cimarron facility may have been contrived. It is also alleged that SILKWOOD's body samples were salted with radioactive material and that SILKWOOD herself may have diverted some of the nuclear material responsible for her contamination and also diverted material used to salt her body specimens.

The most recent known incident regarding the KMC Cimarron facility concerns the scattering of uranium fuel pellets as set out in referenced teletype. REC-72 1-9-11

3-Bureau  
2-Dallas  
2-Washington Field  
4-Oklahoma City (1-117-43) (Cimarron Facility)  
(1-117-49) (Uranium Fuel Pellets)  
(2-159-45)

LJO:ddw (11)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

b6  
b7C  
Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter 12/21/74  
Per FOIA Request



RECEIVED  
INTELLIGENCE DIV.  
JAN 16 9 46 AM 1975

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DEC 23 3 46 PM '74  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

OC 159-45

The resultant widespread local and national publicity given to the SILKWOOD case and attendant matters at the KMC Cimarron facility has generated considerable interest from various parties. The matters which appear to relate to AEC have been thoroughly investigated by that agency.

As set out in rerep, the USA at Oklahoma City, [REDACTED] WDO, indicated he was desirous that the AEC also furnish the results of their completed investigation(s) to the Department and his office so that consideration can be given to other aspects of the case...

b6  
b7C

As recently as 12/18/74, USA [REDACTED] again expressed his interest in the status of the AEC investigation. Details of the AEC investigations are unknown to the Oklahoma City Office.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

It is requested that the Bureau through liaison with AEC insure that results of AEC investigations are obtained and insure that AEC remains conversant with the investigative interest and jurisdiction of the FBI in regard to the Atomic Energy Act and related matters.

DALLAS DIVISION

Will expedite reporting of results of the obtaining of the accident investigation report of [REDACTED]

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

b6  
b7C

Will expedite reporting of interviews of OCAW representatives [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

F B I

Date: 12/24/74

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: ACTING SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) P<sup>3</sup>

UNSUBS; <sup>①</sup>

KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)

LMRDA; OOJ

OO: Oklahoma City

b6  
b7C

Re Oklahoma City report of SA [REDACTED]  
SR. dated 12/13/74; Bureau telephone call to Oklahoma City  
on 12/24/74; and Oklahoma City airtel to Bureau dated  
12/19/74. Ser 8

Enclosed for Baltimore are two copies of referenced  
Oklahoma City airtel dated 12/19/74.

On 12/24/74, [REDACTED] Labor Section,  
FBIHQ, telephonically contacted the Oklahoma City Office  
to advise that FBIHQ had been contacted relative to report  
resulting from Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) investigating  
relative to captioned case and related matters. [REDACTED]  
of AEC Operations, 4350 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland,  
telephone number 973-7353, was in possession of the report  
and desired to provide same to the FBI.

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] would be available on the afternoon of  
1/2/75 or 1/3/75 and requested that he be telephonically  
contacted by FBI representative prior to his coming by  
to pick up the report.

For the information of Baltimore, captioned case  
relates to a deceased employee of the Kerr McGee Corporation

- ③ - Bureau  
2 - Baltimore (Enc.-2)  
3 - Oklahoma City (1 - 119-43) (Cimarron Facility)  
LJO:mbs  
(8)

REC-101

3 DEC 27 1974

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter Dated 5-16-76 Per  
FOIPA Request of K. Silkwood

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION

DEC 27 1 30 PM '74

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

OC 159-45

(KMC), Nuclear Products Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma, which facility is considered to be a critical AEC licensed facility. The facility has two production units - uranium enrichment plant and a plutonium fuel rod fabrication plant.

SILKWOOD was active in the affairs of the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW).

On or about 11/5/74, SILKWOOD was involved in a contamination incident at the plant. Her residence was found to be contaminated. SILKWOOD and two others were sent to the AEC facility, Los Alamos, New Mexico, for examination on 11/10-12/74.

On 11/13/74, SILKWOOD, upon her return to Oklahoma was involved in union-company negotiations, and at about 7:30 p.m., 11/13/74, she was involved in a fatal one-car accident when reportedly she was enroute to meet with a union representative and a New York Times reporter.

OCAW made allegations that SILKWOOD's death was a result of foul play.

The Department requested an investigation re captioned case under LMRDA since allegations, if substantiated, may constitute violation through the impairment of SILKWOOD's rights (as a union member) guaranteed by the act and OOO (in that SILKWOOD was a witness in a pending investigation before AEC).

For the further information of Baltimore, additional related allegations have been made re health and safety standards at the Cimarron Facility that SILKWOOD's contamination was contrived that body samples submitted by SILKWOOD were "salted" with radioactive material and quality control records re plutonium fuel rods were altered (by the company).

Several related investigations have been conducted by various departments (units) of AEC concerning the various aspects of this case. Some of the allegations, if substantiated, could possibly constitute violations of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

F B I

Date: 12/31/74

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: ACTING SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) P

UNSUBS; ①  
 KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
 LRMDA; OOJ  
 OO: Oklahoma City

Deleted Copy Sent

by Letter Dated 3-16-76 *lmb*Per FOIA Request *Re K. Silkwood*

b6

b7C

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are five (5) copies of LHM dated and captioned as above. Enclosed for Dallas are two (2) copies of instant LHM. (One copy of LHM being furnished to USA, Oklahoma City.)

On 12/30/74, [REDACTED]

KOMA radio station, Oklahoma City (offices and transmitter, Moore, Oklahoma) telephonically contacted the Oklahoma City FBI Office to advise that his station was in possession of information of possible interest to FBI concerning captioned case. This information consisted of a tape recording of an unidentified female who telephonically contacted station during a radio talk show 12/29/74, and an unsigned letter received by the station 12/30/74.

JAN 4 1975

Tape and letter would appear to both be "crank" or hoax-type. It is noted letter refers to victim as KAREN LYNN SILKWOOD, true name being KAREN GAY SILKWOOD. As set out on enclosed LHM, Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC) advised that SILKWOOD on two dates was alleged to have made trips to Dallas 9/14/74 and 10/12/74 and worked at the Cimarron Facility 12½ and 11 hours respectively. KMC also advised they have no financial or other interest in the company mentioned on page 2 of letter - Odessa Pipeline Inc., and that this company is owned by El Paso Natural Gas Company.

ENCLOSURE

2cc ROM CRIM. DIV., by 0-6D

② - Bureau (Enc.-5)

2 - Dallas (Enc.-2) (159-107)

2 - Oklahoma City

LJO:mbs. (6)

1cc D + Destroyed

1cc LABOR DESK, TICKLER

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

OC 159-45

Of the individuals specifically mentioned in instant letter, Oklahoma City indices are negative re the following:



b6  
b7C

It is also noted there is no motel known as the Capital Inn as such in Oklahoma City; however, there is the Capitol Motel, 2900 Lincoln Blvd.

The envelope and letter furnished by KOMA were handled by numerous station personnel and not preserved for latent fingerprints.

Liaison with Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) determined that that agency had no investigation re SILKWOOD or related matters in that the names of individuals mentioned in letter are unknown to them.

It does not appear that any extensive investigation regarding contents of letter is warranted; however, Oklahoma City is requesting that Dallas conduct the limited investigation set out below:

LEADS:

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS. Will conduct indices and credit check re [redacted] and determine if [redacted]

b6  
b7C

OC 159-45

LEADS:

BALTIMORE

AT BETHESDA, MARYLAND. Will contact [ ]  
[ ] AEC Operations, 4350 East-West Highway, and  
obtain copy of AEC report relative to captioned matter.

b6  
b7C





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
December 31, 1974

Unknown Subjects;  
Karen G. Silkwood (Deceased)  
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING  
AND DISCLOSURE ACT of 1959;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

On December 30, 1974, [redacted]  
[redacted] KOMA radio station, Oklahoma City, with  
offices and transmitter, 820 Southwest 4th, Moore, Oklahoma,  
was contacted at his request. [redacted] advised that  
during a Sunday morning radio audience participation talk  
show entitled "Sunday Forum", December 29, 1974, an unidentified  
female called the station and made reference to the Kerr McGee  
Cimarron Facility. The station received an unsigned, and undated  
letter on December 30, 1974, which referred to the deceased  
Karen Gay Silkwood.

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b7C

[redacted] made available a copy of the tape  
recorded conversation of the female caller and made available  
the original envelope and letter received. The transcription  
of the tape recording is set forth below and a copy of the  
letter follows.

b6  
b7C

Radio Disc Jockey - DJ  
Unidentified Female Caller - Unfemale

DJ: "This is Sunday Forum. You're on the air."

Unfemale: "Ah yes. I am calling concerning the Kerr  
McGee situation at Crescent, Oklahoma."

DJ: "Okay."

Unfemale: "I noticed one man already called in and a  
team of us have been investigating this and we  
have reason to believe it is definitely true there  
are 60 lbs. missing of that plutonium. We have  
reason to believe it has been sold to Russia due to  
some very informed sources. Unfortunately I can not  
divulge where my information has come from."

This document contains neither  
recommendations nor conclusions of  
the FBI. It is the property of  
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;  
it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency.

Unknown Subjects;  
Karen G. Silkwood (Deceased)

DJ: "Uh-huh."

**Unfemale:** "However, we have just about traced it, and you're going to be hearing about the next two or three weeks, a team of very dedicated Oklahoma Citians are going to reveal the facts about this, and we are very interested in America, and you know a friend of mine has found that through very, very much investigation, his life has been threatened several times, that the plutonium is missing, and that the man has checked in at the Hilton Inn at the time of Karen Silkwood's death, and this is one reason we feel that her death was not accidental. I'm sorry but this is all we can tell you at this time, but you will be hearing about it in the future. Thank you."

DJ: "Okay."

Unknown Subjects;  
Karen G. Silkwood (Deceased)

On December 30, 1974, [ ] Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC), [ ] advised that his company was furnished copies of the aforementioned tape and letter. Review of company records reveals that on the two dates that Karen Silkwood reportedly traveled to Dallas, Texas, September 14 and October 12, 1974, she worked 12½ and 11 hours respectively at the KMC Cimarron Facility. [ ] advised that Kerr McGee has no financial connection or ownership in the Odessa Pipeline Inc., Midland, Texas, and this company is owned by El Paso Natural Gas Company. [ ] advised his company considers the tape recording and letter both to be nuisance-type crank material. [ ] advised the information concerning Silkwood's contamination set out in the letter was well reported in the media.

b6  
b7C

On December 31, 1974, [ ] Department Director, Special Services, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI), advised his agency had also been furnished copies of aforementioned tape and letter by the KOMA radio station. [ ] advised his agency had conducted no investigation relative to Karen Silkwood or related matters, and the names of the persons appearing within the letter were unknown to his agency.

b6  
b7C

FBI

Date: 1/6/75

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (159-618)(RUC)

SUBJECT: UNSUBS; KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED).  
LMRDA; OOJ;  
(OO:OKLAHOMA CITY)Re Oklahoma City airtels to the Director, 12/19/74;  
12/24/74. *See*

Enclosed for Oklahoma City are the following:

- 1) A copy of the autopsy report dated 10/21/74 signed by Dr. A. JAY CHAPMAN re KAREN SILKWOOD.
- 2) One copy of the accident report prepared by the Oklahoma City Highway Patrol of the accident in which SILKWOOD was killed.
- 3) A copy of the Atomic Energy Commission report regarding "An employee and her residence were found to be contaminated with plutonium on 11/7/74."
- 4) A copy of an Atomic Energy Commission report regarding various allegations against the Kerr-Mc Gee Nuclear Corporation, Cimarron Facility, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Oklahoma City (159-45)(Enc. 4)  
1 - Baltimore  
GGS:mjm  
(5)

Deleted Copy Sent \_\_\_\_\_  
by Letter Dated 5-10-76 *by b*  
Per FOIA Request *re K. Silkwood*

b6  
b7C

6 JAN 8 1975

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 9 1975

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

JAN 8 1 40 PM '75

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JAN 8 1975

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

BA 159-618

On 1/2/75, [redacted] Atomic Energy Commission, 4350 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland, made available the above enclosures.

b6  
b7c

For information of Oklahoma City, the Atomic Energy Commission, in their report regarding the contamination of KAREN SILKWOOD and contamination of her apartment, does not set forth names of those contaminated and identifies them in the report as Individual A, Individual B and Individual C.

[redacted] identified those persons as Individual A - KAREN SILKWOOD, Individual B - [redacted]

b6  
b7c

[redacted] Oklahoma, and Individual C - [redacted]

[redacted] Oklahoma.

FBI

Date: 1/8/75

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: ACTING SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY (159-45) (P)

SUBJECT: UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

b6  
b7C

Re report of SA [REDACTED], dated 12/13/74, at Oklahoma City; Oklahoma City airtels to Bureau, dated 12/19/74 and 12/24/74; and Dallas airtel to Oklahoma City, dated 12/23/74.

b6  
b7C

For the information of WFO and Baltimore, the Bureau has advised that the U. S. Department of Justice has indicated that they are desirous of bringing this case to an expeditious conclusion.

For the information of the Bureau, Dallas, by referenced Dallas airtel, furnished Oklahoma City a copy of report of [REDACTED] Accident Reconstruction Lab, which report is relative to a fatal accident of deceased. Copy of report also furnished by [REDACTED] to Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP). [REDACTED] report is being critically analyzed by OHP. Oklahoma City will include report and results of OHP analysis in subsequent Oklahoma City report.

b6  
b7CLEADSWFO

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. Will expedite coverage

② - Bureau  
2 - Baltimore  
2 - WFO  
2 - Oklahoma City  
LJO:sgs  
(8)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter dated 5/18/76  
Per FOIA Request of K. Silkwood

EX-105 REC-74

16 JAN 11 1975

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5710

JAN 13 1975

JAN 11 2 07 PM '75

F. B. I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ACCT'G SEC.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



OC 159-45

of leads and interview oil, chemical and atomic workers,  
union officials, [ ] and [ ] and  
submit report.

BALTIMORE

b6  
b7C

AT BETHESDA, MARYLAND. Will expedite reporting  
of contact with [ ] AEC Operations, and submit  
report.

Airtel

1- Mr. Rothman

1/10/75

TO: SAC, Oklahoma City (159-45)

From: Director, FBI

UNSUBS; *(D)*  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD, DECEASED  
LMRDA; OOO  
OO: OC

ReBuairtel to Oklahoma City 12/24/74, and  
Baltimore airtel 1/6/75. *new*

Enclosed for the information of Oklahoma City  
are the following documents, which were made available  
to FBIHQ by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), Washington,  
D. C.

AEC News Release #U-11 dated 1/6/75

AEC News Release #U-12 dated 1/7/74

AEC Report of Inspection during period  
11/21 & 22/74, and 12/5 & 6/74.

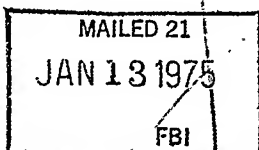
AEC Investigative Report #74-09

AEC Division of Inspection Report 44-2-339

Enclosures (5)

ELR:maw  
*(4)*  
*ELR*

Deletd Copy Sent  
by Letter Dated 5-10-76  
Per FOIPA Request 24-K-  
Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_



51 JAN 21 1975

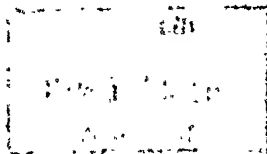
MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

GPO 954-54

217VHS1 012

JAN 14 1975



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. McDermott

DATE: 1/13/75

FROM :

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C

SUBJECT:

CONGRESSMAN JAMES R. JONES (D-OKLAHOMA)  
INQUIRY TO DETERMINE IF FBI INVESTIGATING THE  
DEATH OF KAREN G. SILKWOOD AT KERR-MC GEE  
AEC FACILITY; CIMARRON, OKLAHOMA

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

[Redacted] Congressman Jones' Office, telephonically contacted Unit Chief [Redacted] 1/13/75 and stated the Congressman is interested in knowing if the FBI is investigating the death of Karen G. Silkwood who was employed at the Kerr-McGee AEC Facility, Cimarron, Oklahoma. A check was made with the General Investigative Division and [Redacted] was advised that allegations had been made by the union to which Miss Silkwood belonged that her death was not accidental. At the request of the Department of Justice, the FBI is conducting an investigation to determine if her rights as a union member had been violated under the provisions of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act. She was further advised the results of our investigation will be furnished to the Department and other interested Government agencies.

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We have had limited cordial contact with Congressman Jones.

## RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

REC-74

EX-101

14 JAN 20 1975

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Jenkins
- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Wannall
- 1 - Congressional Services Office

58 JAN 27 1975 JCW:nmi (8)

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MAN

JCW

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
FBI  
JAN 14 3 55 PM '75  
RECEIVED  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
DIVISION

RECEIVED  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
DIVISION  
JAN 15 8 AM '75  
JAN 21 1975

JAN 14 10 11 AM '75  
JAN 13 11 46 AM '75  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

JAN 14 8 AM '75  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
RECEIVED  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
DIVISION  
JAN 16 12 46 AM '75

REC'D GEBHARDT  
FBI

JAN 17 12 57 PM 1975  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
JAN 16 11 56 AM 1975

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	DATE <b>1/21/75</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>12/18/74 - 1/15/75</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUB; KAREN C. SILKWOOD (Deceased)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	TYPED BY <b>b6 b7C dah</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>LMRDA; OOJ</b>	

## REFERENCES:

Report of SA  at Oklahoma City, 12/13/74;  
 Dallas airtel to Oklahoma City, 12/23/74; IO;  
 Baltimore airtel to Bureau, 1/6/75;  
 Oklahoma City airtel and LHM to Bureau, 12/31/74;  
 Bureau airtel to Oklahoma City 1/10/75;

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-P-

## ENCLOSURES:

TO BUREAU

Deleted Copy Sent   
 by Letter Dated 3-16-76, 5-10-76  
 Per FOIPA Request *16 R. H. [unclear]*

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Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are three copies of xerox copies of Accident Reconstruction Lab dated December 15, 1974, and two copies each of the following items:

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. - 13) ENCLOSURE  
 2 - USA, Oklahoma City (Enc. - 6)  
 1 - WFO  
 2 - Oklahoma City (159-45) BEHIND FILE

159-4005-13

17 JAN 27 1975

ST-110

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	100 ROM CIRM. DIV
Request Recd.	
Date Fwd.	1/30/75
How Fwd.	HAND CARRIED TO <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
By	EDP/CL

Notations

DATA PROC

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51 JUN 02 1975

COVER PAGE

OC 159-45

AEC News Release #U-11 dated 1/6/75;

AEC News Release #U-12 dated 1/7/74;

AEC Report of Inspection during period 11/21 and 22/74, and 12/5 and 6/74;

AEC Investigative Report #74-09;

AEC Division of Inspection Report 44-2-339.

Three copies of the Accident Reconstruction Lab report were furnished to the Bureau, one of which is for dissemination to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). Dissemination of other enclosed material to AEC is not warranted since the material is originally obtained from AEC.

Baltimore by re Baltimore airtel furnished Oklahoma City draft copies of much of the material furnished to Oklahoma City by the Bureau by re Bureau airtel, 1/10/75. None of the Baltimore material is being disseminated since it has been included in the material furnished to Oklahoma City by the Bureau by re 1/10/75 airtel. All the material in enclosed re Bureau airtel has been disseminated by this report.

Three copies of report being provided to Bureau in view of Obstruction of Justice aspect of this case in event that dissemination of report to AEC is desired.

LEADS:

WFO (Info). Information copy furnished to WFO in view of outstanding investigation that division.

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA. Will recontact USA, WDO, upon receipt of outstanding investigation from WFO.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 2 - USA, Oklahoma City

Report of:  
Date:SA [REDACTED]  
1/21/75

b6

b7C Office: Oklahoma City

Field Office File #159-45

Bureau File #:

Title: UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (Deceased)Character: LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT of 1959;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] Accident Reconstruction Lab, Dallas, Texas, on 12/18/74, made available a copy of his report dated 12/15/74 re fatal auto accident of KAREN G. SILKWOOD. FBI Lab advised no significant material or paint could be identified as foreign to paint particles submitted. Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) critically analyzed [REDACTED] report and advised that [REDACTED] report does not alter their original conclusion re SILKWOOD's death and that there was no evidence of foul play connected with her accident. [REDACTED] Kerr-McGee Cimarron facility, advised she attended union meeting 11/13/74 and saw KAREN SILKWOOD at the meeting. SILKWOOD had in her possession a tan manila folder.

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Enclosures:

TO USA, OKLAHOMA CITY.

One copy each of the Accident Reconstruction Lab and one copy each of the five enclosed AEC material is being furnished to USA, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Details:

On December 18, 1974, [REDACTED] Accident Reconstruction Lab, 1710 Boll Street, Dallas, Texas, made available a 17 page report dated December 15, 1974, concerning the fatal accident of KAREN SILKWOOD November 13, 1974. [REDACTED] advised that the original report was sent to the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW) and the OCAW has been advised that he is providing a copy of the report to the FBI, Dallas, Texas.

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/18/75

1

Lieutenant [ ] Public Information, Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), furnished the following information:

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The OHP is in receipt of the report prepared by [ ] of Accident Reconstruction Lab, Dallas, Texas, which [ ] prepared relative to the fatal one car accident of KAREN G. SILKWOOD which occurred in Logan County, Oklahoma, on the evening of November 13, 1974.

Upon receipt the report was studied at length by three Highway Patrol accident specialists led by Lieutenant [ ] The group studied the report for a week.

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On January 10, 1975, a lengthy press conference was held at OHP Headquarters, Oklahoma City, at which time the Highway Patrol's critical analysis of the [ ] report was stated by Public Safety Commissioner [ ] and Lieutenant [ ] No formal written report by the Highway Patrol relative to their analysis of the [ ] report has been prepared.

He was in attendance at the January 10, 1975, press conference and also was aware of the complete details of the OHP study of the [ ] report. The OHP has ruled out any possibility that foul play was involved in the SILKWOOD accident. All the known evidence indicates that the crash was accidental and apparently the result of Miss SILKWOOD having fallen asleep while driving. It was noted that the State Medical Examiner's report indicated that Miss SILKWOOD had one and one-half times the therapeutic dosage of Methaqualone, a hypnotic drug, in her blood at the time of the accident with a large quantity of undissolved drug in her stomach.

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There was no evidence of SILKWOOD's car having been struck from the rear, thus precipitating the fatal crash as postulated by [ ] The dents to the left rear

Interviewed on 1/15/75 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [ ] b6 b7C Date dictated 1/16/75

bumper and left rear corner of the body noted by [ ] were in the Highway Patrol's opinion caused by wrecker drivers in their attempt to remove the car from the culvert where it came to rest. If the dents had been caused from impact of another vehicle, they more than likely would have been smooth; however, close-up photographs of the dents were taken reflecting raspy-type indentations showing a sandpaper effect such as would come from the car having come in contact with the rough concrete surface of the culvert. White paint flakes were found on the top portion of the south wing of the culvert thus indicating that the dents to the car that [ ] thought significant occurred there.

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The OHP also noted that these dents that [ ] thought significant occurred relatively close to the ground from 13 to 15" above the ground surface on the lower surface of the bumper and below the bumper. The OHP could not visualize what type of vehicle would be closer to the ground than a Honda that could have caused the accident in the version that [ ] described. [ ] reconstruction of the path of the SILKWOOD car as it left the road and striking the culvert was thought to be contrary to the laws of physics. [ ] contended that SILKWOOD overcompensated upon receiving a blow in the rear and swerved from the right land across the left lane and off the left side of the road, but the OHP was unable to find any skid marks to indicate she lost control of the car before leaving the road.

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[ ] cited three lines of tire indentations toward the culvert which [ ] believed were caused by the SILKWOOD car moving in a somewhat sideways configuration toward the north wing wall. If that were correct, the tire impressions would have ground up the turf along its path, but no such evidence was found by the OHP.

[ ] also thought it significant that a tire tread mark found on the road surface indicated to him that the SILKWOOD car was jackknifing, but if a jackknife situation had occurred the OHP noted that the tires would not have left the tread marks thought significant by [ ].

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[ ] interpretation of the significance of SILKWOOD's car leaving the left side of the road was also

faulty. [ ] had indicated because the road surface is crowned, that is slightly higher in the center, that SILKWOOD's car would have veered to the right side if she had fallen asleep. The OHP noted that this would have been true only if the car had been in alignment. The OHP noted SILKWOOD's car had been in another accident just two weeks prior to the November 13, 1974, accident. The damage from this accident had not been repaired indicating that the SILKWOOD car was likely not in proper alignment.

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The OHP noted that [ ] opinions had no real physical evidence to support the theory of foul play.

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The [ ] report in no way altered the OHP initial findings in the SILKWOOD fatality.

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Oklahoma City

Date: December 23, 1974

Re: UNSUBS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD  
(Deceased)  
LMRDA; OOJ  
OO: Oklahoma City

FBI File No.

Lab. No. PC-L4261 MW

Specimens received 12/16/74

Q1 Paint from dented area of Honda  
Q2 Scrapings from bumper of Honda

## Result of examination:

The Q1 specimen from the dented area of the Honda contained paint particles exhibiting the following layer structure:

1. White enamel
2. Gray primer

The Q2 specimen from the bumper of the Honda contained one paint particle that matched those of Q1 in colors, textures, layer structure and types.

No significant material or paint which could be identified as foreign to the two-layered paint particles was found in Q1 or Q2.

15

OC 159-45

The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC),  
Washington, D.C., made available to FBI Headquarters,  
Washington D.C. the following items:

AEC News Release #U-11 dated January  
6, 1975;

AEC News Release #U-12 dated January  
7, 1974;

AEC Report of Inspection during period  
November 21 and 22, 1974, and December 5 and 6, 1974;

AEC Investigative Report #74-09;

AEC Division of Inspection Report 44-2-339.

OC 159-45

TWM:ddw

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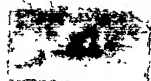
At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

On January 8, 1975, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union, telephonically contacted the Oklahoma City Office of the FBI to advise that he had received information that a union member, who is employed at the Kerr-McGee Corporation (KMC), Cimarron Facility, saw a folder in possession of KAREN SILKWOOD at the union meeting, November 13, 1974 just prior to SILKWOOD's fatal accident. The folder contained information that would support the allegations concerning the company having been involved in the falsification of fuel rod records. [REDACTED] advised that he received much of SILKWOOD's personal possessions obtained from the car involved in the fatal accident but he did not receive a folder such as described by the union member.

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[REDACTED] advised that the union member who saw the folder was [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Oklahoma. [REDACTED] does not desire to be contacted at the plant inasmuch as she is apprehensive that the company may take some type of disciplinary action against her should it be known that she is talking to the FBI.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 1/15/75

[redacted] Oklahoma  
 was interviewed at her residence, a mobile home located at  
 the corner of [redacted] and furnished the following  
 information:

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She is employed at the Kerr-McGee Corporation (KMC),  
 Cimarron Facility, and has worked at that plant for the  
 past 18 months. She works in the pellet assembly room of the  
 plutonium plant. She was acquainted with KAREN SILKWOOD.  
 SILKWOOD worked in the laboratory in the plutonium plant.  
 She and KAREN worked in different sections and often times  
 on different shifts. Both she and KAREN are members of the  
 Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union.  
 She knew KAREN through their mutual association in union  
 activities. She and KAREN did not socialize with each  
 other. She and KAREN were not close friends but were  
 acquaintances.

On the evening of November 13, 1974, she attended  
 the union meeting held at The Hub Restaurant in Crescent.  
 KAREN also attended this meeting. There was a total of six  
 or eight union members in attendance at this meeting.

She also attended a union meeting on the evening  
 of January 7, 1975 at which the international representative,  
 [redacted] was also present. It was not until conversation  
 developed at this January 7, 1975 meeting that she recalled  
 seeing certain items in possession of SILKWOOD at the November  
 13, 1974 meeting. In the conversation with [redacted] a  
 Cimarron Facility employee and a union member, [redacted] mentioned  
 that she believed she recalled seeing KAREN with a folder  
 at the November 13, 1974 meeting.

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After [redacted] mentioned the folder, she also recalled  
 seeing KAREN with a folder at the November 13, 1974 meeting.

KAREN arrived at the November 13, 1974 union meeting  
 after it had started. KAREN was accompanied by [redacted].  
 She did not sit with KAREN. She recalled that KAREN had in  
 her possession at the meeting a purse and a brown manilla folder

Interviewed on 1/9/75 at [redacted] Okla. File # Oklahoma City 159-45  
 by [redacted] Date dictated 1/13/75

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2.

OC 159-45

approximately one inch thick containing papers and a dark brown spiral notebook approximately 8 inches by ten inches and a half-inch thick. She believes that the notebook contained KAREN's notes concerning union-company negotiations.

The manilla folder was identical to the folder which she now observed in the possession of the interviewing agent. (It is noted that the folder [redacted] is referring to is a tan manilla folder nine inches by twelve inches.)

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She does not know what the nature of the papers were within the manilla folder that KAREN had at the November 13, 1974 meeting. KAREN did not tell her what the papers were nor did she actually observe the contents of the folder. She assumes that the papers in the folder dealt with the information that KAREN had acquired regarding the falsification of the fuel rod quality control records but she does not know this to be a fact, it is merely an assumption.

After the meeting had broken up on the evening of November 13, 1974, KAREN mentioned to her that she was going to thereafter see [redacted]. KAREN said that she had evidence concerning the falsification of fuel rod records. Just what the nature of the evidence that KAREN had, she does not know.

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During the course of the November 13, 1974 meeting, KAREN was visibly shook. By this, she means that KAREN appeared very nervous and very "scared". This condition was a result of KAREN having been contaminated. At the meeting, KAREN broke down and cried. She heard KAREN say "I don't know who got it in for me to take my life with this contamination. I've got enough to kill me."

It was her opinion that KAREN should have someone drive her home because of her "condition". She did not hear any of the other union members make any offers to drive KAREN home prior to KAREN's leaving but after KAREN left, she learned that [redacted] had offered to drive KAREN home but she refused.

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She did not see KAREN eat or drink anything at the union meeting. She did not see KAREN take any type of pill or medication at the union meeting.



OC 159-45

It was shortly after the November 13, 1974 meeting, that KAREN was involved in the fatal automobile accident.

She has no personal knowledge as to how the fatal accident occurred. She has no personal knowledge as to how KAREN became contaminated. She has no personal knowledge concerning the allegations that KAREN's body samples were tampered with.

She has no personal knowledge as to what information KAREN had acquired relative to the falsification of fuel rod records. The only information she has in this regard is information that KAREN told her in various conversations at union meetings, etc., subsequent to the September, 1974 meeting in Washington, D. C. that KAREN and other union officials attended. From her conversations with KAREN and other union members, she is aware that KAREN had gathered much information concerning health-safety conditions at the Cimarron Facility and to her knowledge, KAREN had passed on this information to the Atomic Energy Commission.

She was at another union meeting sometime in October, 1974, exact date unrecalled, which meeting was held at The Hub Cafe in Crescent. During this meeting, KAREN had complained that she was sick, coming down with a virus. KAREN looked sick to her. KAREN talked to [redacted] a Cimarron Facility, non-union employee, who was at The Hub but not in attendance at the union meeting. [redacted] invited KAREN to spend the night with her and from conversation with both KAREN and [redacted] she understands that KAREN did in fact spend the night with [redacted].

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She does not know where KAREN went immediately after the union meeting and presumes that KAREN went directly to [redacted] house.

OC 159-45

LJO:ddw

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Reference is made to the report of SA [redacted]  
[redacted] at Oklahoma City dated December 13, 1974.

It is noted that [redacted]  
Ted Sebring Ford Company, Crescent, Oklahoma, as set out on  
page 59 of the above-mentioned report recalls observing  
two "binders" which were placed in a box containing personal  
effects from SILKWOOD's car.

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SILKWOOD's boy friend, [redacted] as set out  
on page 115 of above-mentioned report, indicates that he  
obtained from SILKWOOD's personal effects two folders, one  
containing old union papers and the other concerning nuclear  
hazards and industrial ecology.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/16/75

[redacted] Texas, telephone [redacted] telephonically contacted the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at 12:40 p.m. and furnished the following information:

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She stated she had just read an article in the January 20, 1975, issue of "Time" magazine pertaining to an FBI investigation at Kerr-McGee Plutonium Plant, Cimarron River Facility, in Oklahoma. She said the article concerned a girl named KAREN SILKWOOD, who was killed in an automobile accident on November 13, 1974, at approximately 7:30 p.m. while driving on Oklahoma State Highway 74. [redacted] said she inferred from the article that the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAWU), Local 5-283, was implying that SILKWOOD was killed intentionally by persons unknown because of SILKWOOD's criticism of Kerr-Mc Gee for handling nuclear materials.

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[redacted] explained she often visits in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and was in the general vicinity of the Kerr-McGee Cimarron River facility on November 13, 1974, in her own automobile. She said the wind gusts were very strong that day and estimated the wind to be gusting up to 60-70 miles per hour. She said the "Time" magazine article revealed SILKWOOD was driving a Honda automobile at the time of her accident. [redacted] said, in her opinion, in view of the windy conditions on November 13, 1974, and the fact that SILKWOOD was driving a lightweight car, it is highly probable that the wind blew SILKWOOD's car off the road.

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[redacted] stated she has never been employed by or associated with anyone with Kerr-McGee or OCAWU. She added she has no direct knowledge of the conditions at the Kerr-McGee plant or the circumstances of SILKWOOD's death other than what she read in "Time" magazine. She said her

Interviewed on 1/15/75 at Dallas, TexasFile # Dallas 159-107  
Oklahoma City 159-45by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 1/15/75

2

DL 159-107

OC 159-45

reason for contacting the FBI was simply that she was in the general area during the approximate time SILKWOOD had her accident and wished to point out her observations to responsible authorities of the wind conditions at that time.

[ ] added she has not been contacted by anyone from Kerr-McGee, or OCAWU in regard to this matter and has no interest in it other than to furnish information which may be of assistance as a responsible citizen.

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1- Mr. Gebhardt  
1- Mr. Long  
1- Mr. Adams  
1- Mr. McDermott  
1- [redacted]

b6  
b7C

January 20, 1974

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b7C

**KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LABOR MANAGEMENT REPORTING  
AND DISCLOSURE ACT  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE**

Deleted Copy Sent [redacted]  
By Letter Dated 3-16-76 [redacted]  
Per FOIPA Request [redacted]

Captioned individual was an employee at the Kerr McGee Corporation, manufacturer of plutonium at Crescent, Oklahoma (20 miles north of Oklahoma City), and a member of the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW) at the time she was killed in a one car accident 7.3 miles south of Crescent at 7:30 p.m., 11/13/74. Since this individual was reportedly engaged in union business at the time of her death and was a witness in a pending investigation before the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the Criminal Division of the Department requested a preliminary investigation be conducted by the FBI. This investigation was to determine if violations of Section 530, Title 29, U. S. Code (through the impairment of Silkwood's rights guaranteed by Section 411, Title 29, U. S. Code) and Section 1505, Title 18, U. S. Code (in that Silkwood was a witness in a pending investigation before AEC) existed.

Investigation by the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, FBI office has revealed that on November 13, 1974, Silkwood was involved in union-company negotiations, met with AEC representatives and later that day attended a union meeting at Crescent. Two union members offered to drive her home from this meeting since they felt she was under a severe emotional strain as a result of her union activities and having been involved in a contamination incident at Kerr McGee. Silkwood turned this offer down and left the meeting shortly after 7 p.m. and was involved in the fatal accident at 7:30 p.m.

This accident was investigated by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, whose official report revealed no indication of foul play although allegations were received from OCAW indicating that an independent accident investigator, hired by the union, suggested that Silkwood's automobile was hit from behind by another vehicle causing the fatal accident. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol has ruled out any such possibility.

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

ELR:maw  
(8)

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

GPO 97

KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)

Autopsy performed on Silkwood indicated cause of death was multiple injuries and that she was under the influence of hypnotic drug, methaqualone, at time of her death. A trace of ethyl alcohol was also found in her system. Investigation has determined methaqualone was prescribed for Silkwood by her physician on October 25, 1974, to assist her in sleeping and was to be taken upon retiring.

Silkwood had previously been involved in a one car accident October 21, 1974, which was not reported to the police at which time the right rear of her car received damage.

Investigation by the FBI to date has developed no information indicating the death of Silkwood was other than accidental.

A review of the results of an investigation conducted by AEC based on allegations that Kerr McGee Corporation was in violation of the AEC health-safety standards, is being made and upon completion of this review, final results of requested preliminary investigation will be furnished to the Criminal Division of the Department.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN OKLAHOMA CITY	DATE 2/5/75	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/27-28/75
TITLE OF CASE RESURF GAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY rja
		CHARACTER OF CASE LURDA; OOT	

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 12/13/74 at Oklahoma City.

- P -

ENCLOSURESOKLAHOMA

1) Tape of conversations furnished by [REDACTED] and referred to in this report.

2) One (1) copy of hearings before the Subcommittee on Research, Development, and Radiation of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. b6 b7C

3) Copy of letter dated 1/20/75 to members of the CNU Union at Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation, from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
						PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

Dunn / J / H

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- 3- Bureau
- 4- Oklahoma City (159-45 (Enc. 3))
- (2- USA, Oklahoma City)
- 1- Deleted Copy Sent [REDACTED]
- Letter Dated 1-13-75 [REDACTED]
- Per FOIPA Request [REDACTED]

159-45-17	REC-31
FEB 10 1975	
[REDACTED]	

## Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	1cc ROM CRIM. DIV
Request Recd.	[REDACTED]
Date Fwd.	2/18/75
How Fwd.	Hand Carried To [REDACTED]
By	EDP/c [REDACTED]

Notations

SIX

DATA PROC

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100-1-2-297

RECEIVED  
INTELLIGENCE DIV.

7000 3700

TO: HON CHIEF  
FEB 14 9 50 AM '75  
FEB 10 3 01 PM '75  
RECEIVED  
INTELLIGENCE DIV.

UF



WFO 159-360

ADMINISTRATIVE

An attempt was made to contact [redacted]  
and [redacted] on 1/27/75.

Oklahoma City airtel to the Director, dated 11/27/74, advised that [redacted] Executive Director, Staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (JCOAE), had contacted FBI Headquarters and stated that testimony taken from [redacted] in September, 1974 might be pertinent to this investigation.

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[redacted] has retired from the JCOAE. [redacted] Acting Director, JCOAE, was contacted and he advised he knew of no testimony by [redacted] before the JCOAE in September, 1974. He had a staff assistant, [redacted] make a check to determine if [redacted] had ever testified before the Committee and the only record that could be located was testimony of [redacted] on 6/8/67. A copy of [redacted] testimony on 6/8/67 is enclosed for Oklahoma City.

As WFO does not know the extent of the investigation conducted by the Oklahoma City Division, no leads are being set forth to interview any of the individuals in attached report.

LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will maintain contact with [redacted] OCAW, to obtain copy of the report of [redacted] [redacted] pertaining to the rubber smudge on SILKWOOD's car.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 2- USA, Oklahoma City

Report of: [REDACTED]

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Office: Washington, D.C.

Date: 2/5/75

Field Office File #: 159-369

Bureau File #:

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)Character: LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

## Synopsis:

[REDACTED] OCAW, advised that on 11/7/74, SILKWOOD telephoned him reporting she was contaminated and requested his help. [REDACTED] flew to Oklahoma on 11/8/74 and met with SILKWOOD who told him her apartment was contaminated, especially her refrigerator and food. SILKWOOD stated she felt someone had tried to poison her. SILKWOOD stated she had also reported her suspicions to two AEC investigators. SILKWOOD also told [REDACTED] fellow member of the OCAW, of her belief while at union meeting evening of 11/13/74. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] observed SILKWOOD in possession of a file containing documents which SILKWOOD stated would document the falsification of quality control data. [REDACTED] stated this file is missing. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED], who investigated SILKWOOD's accident for OCAW, felt that if her car's left rear fender had been damaged at time it was extracted from the culvert there would be concrete fragments in the dents so [REDACTED] with approval of the OCAW, engaged [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Consultants, to examine the fender and bumper of SILKWOOD's car. Their reports are set forth.

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DETAILS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 2/4/75

1

[redacted] Oil, Chemical  
and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW), 1126 16th  
Street, furnished the following information:

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In September, 1974, KAREN SILKWOOD, together with other OCAW members employed at the Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma, were in Washington, D.C. (WDC) to inform the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) about the unsafe working standards at the facility.

While in WDC, SILKWOOD mentioned that documents were being falsified concerning quality control data at the facility. SILKWOOD was instructed by [redacted] to secure documentation concerning the allegations and to keep him apprised of her progress. SILKWOOD did as she was instructed and by late October or early November, 1974, it was decided she was ready for a meeting to discuss the documentation she had obtained.

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It was first decided to meet SILKWOOD in Dallas, Texas, and he purchased an airline ticket on November 6, 1974 for SILKWOOD to fly to Dallas to meet with him on November 13, 1974. SILKWOOD decided she did not want to go to Dallas to meet him because of her contamination problem so the meeting was changed to Oklahoma City on November 13, 1974. On November 13, 1974, he and [redacted] a reporter for the "New York Times", were waiting for SILKWOOD at the Holiday Inn, Oklahoma City, when he learned of her death after he made some telephone calls to OCAW union officers employed at Kerr-McGee when she failed to appear for the meeting by 10:00 p.m.

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On November 14, 1974, he talked to [redacted] Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), who conducted the investigation of KAREN SILKWOOD's accident on November 13, 1974. He told FAGAN he suspected foul play and that it was not just a normal accident. FAGAN replied that he was going to proceed on the theory it was a normal accident unless the autopsy examination showed something to the contrary. WODKA's suspicions of foul play were based on information he had received as set forth below.

Interviewed on 1/28/75 at Washington, D.C. File # WFO 159-369

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 2/3/75

2

On the evening of November 7, 1974, he received a telephone call from KAREN SILKWOOD who told him she had been contaminated and asked him to help her. On November 8, 1974, he flew to Oklahoma and met with SILKWOOD, who told him that she had been discovered to be contaminated on November 5, 1974, and that it had been discovered on November 7, 1974, that her apartment was contaminated, especially her refrigerator and food therein, which she had eaten. During their conversation, SILKWOOD said she felt someone had tried to poison her.

SILKWOOD also told him that she had been on a four day break from work from November 1 through November 4, 1974 and had not been at her apartment during this period until she returned on November 4, 1974. SILKWOOD told him that during this period [redacted] had worked on grave-yard shifts at the plant. SILKWOOD also said that [redacted] often had difficulty locking the apartment door and left it unlocked. SILKWOOD had said she felt that during this period someone had entered her apartment and contaminated the food in the refrigerator. SILKWOOD also told him she had reported her suspicions to [redacted] and [redacted] investigators of the AEC, who were then conducting an investigation at the Kerr-McGee facility concerning the contamination incident. [redacted] and [redacted] work out of the AEC Glen Ellyn Office just outside Chicago, Illinois.

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On November 13, 1974, [redacted] told him that SILKWOOD had stayed with a friend, [redacted] in [redacted] Oklahoma, from November 1 to November 4, 1974. [redacted] who works at the Kerr-McGee facility, now resides at [redacted] Oklahoma.

[redacted] also told him after SILKWOOD's death that on the evening of November 7, 1974, the team from Kerr-McGee that were decontaminating SILKWOOD's apartment stopped working about 9:00 p.m. At the time they found the apartment to be contaminated they requested that all keys to the apartment be turned over to them; however, according to [redacted] one key to the apartment was kept by SILKWOOD and she went to the apartment after the Kerr-McGee men left to get something she did not want them to find. According to [redacted] the

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Kerr-McGee men placed a slip of paper on top of the door when they left so they would know whether anyone had entered the apartment after they departed. On returning the next morning they observed that the paper was not on top of the door.

On November 14, 1974, after talking to [redacted] he, together with [redacted] and [redacted] went to the Sebring Ford Agency, Crescent, Oklahoma, where [redacted] picked up SILKWOOD's personal effects after her parents had authorized [redacted] to take custody of them. [redacted] was given a taped box which was still sealed when he received it. This box was opened in the presence of [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted] but no documents were located relating to quality control work.

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Subsequently, he received information from [redacted] a Kerr-McGee employee and a member of the OCAW local at the facility, that on the evening of November 13, 1974, both SILKWOOD and [redacted] attended a union meeting at the Hub Cafe, Crescent, Oklahoma. According to [redacted] SILKWOOD had a legal size folder about one inch thick with her. According to [redacted] SILKWOOD was going through the documents at the meeting arranging them in some order. At the meeting, SILKWOOD told [redacted] that the documents pertained to the falsification of quality control documents and said she had it all there. According to [redacted] there were loose documents, a yellow tablet, and what appeared to be graph paper in the folder. During the meeting, SILKWOOD also told [redacted] that she did not know who had it in for her so bad that they would contaminate her apartment.

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[redacted] stated that after receiving the above information from [redacted] he telephoned the Oklahoma City Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and related the information to a Special Agent. He said he has since been told by [redacted] that a Special Agent of the FBI had interviewed her. [redacted] stated that [redacted] another union member who attended the November 13, 1974 meeting at the Hub Cafe, had also told him that SILKWOOD had with her that night a folder as described by [redacted] [redacted] stated that this file folder was not among the personal effects turned over to [redacted] and he has not been able to learn if it was ever found. He also stated [redacted] had said that on the evening of November 13, 1974, SILKWOOD also had an 8" by 10" spiral notebook which is also missing.

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[ ] stated he has been told that [ ] a trucker from Covington, Oklahoma, had discovered the wreck and notified the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. Thereafter [ ] and [ ] Kerr-McGee employees, came upon the wreck and recognized SILKWOOD and telephoned Kerr-McGee. Thereafter [ ] and [ ] Kerr-McGee employees, were sent to the wreck scene to determine if there were any signs of contamination. b6 b7C

[ ] stated that he had been talking with [ ] and [ ] the AEC investigators, on the evening of November 13, 1974, as they were also staying at the Holiday Inn, Oklahoma City. When he learned of the accident he went to their room to inform them of the accident but they had already left for the wreck site.

[ ] stated he had gone to the wreck scene on the night of November 13, 1974, and there found SILKWOOD's pay check but nothing else. He again went to the wreck scene on November 14, 1974, but found nothing.

[ ] exhibited a green spiral stenographer type notebook, captioned "Eye Tint 2000, Easel", stating that this notebook came from the personal effects of SILKWOOD received by [ ] on November 14, 1974. Two pages of the notebook contained handwriting. One page contained a notation of a phone call on October 22, 1974, and the other page appeared to be an inventory of clothes. b6 b7C

[ ] exhibited an AEC report dated December 19, 1974, by [ ] titled "Kerr-McGee - Nuclear Division, Cimarron Nuclear Facility-Crescent, Oklahoma - Alleged Falsification of Quality Assurance Records." [ ] stated that this report of investigation conducted by the AEC had developed that photographs of plutonium rods had been retouched and that analysts had unauthorized knowledge of sample data before they began their analysis of plutonium pellets. [ ] stated that this investigation had developed information that several employees in the laboratory at the Kerr-McGee facility had said they knew that SILKWOOD had been staying after work going through files and that she had told fellow workers what she was doing, that is looking for documentation to support her charges of falsification of documents pertaining to quality control. b6 b7C

[ ] also exhibited another document captioned "RO Investigation Report No. 74-09, Directorate of Regulatory Operations, Region 3" regarding examination of SILKWOOD's contamination. This report set forth a record of the contamination found in SILKWOOD's urine and fecal submissions from the time she was employed. [ ] stated that all samples set forth in the report contained a low level of contamination up to sample number 22. He then furnished the following information concerning samples 22 through 28 set forth in the report:

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<u>Sample</u>	<u>Type(*)</u>	<u>Date Taken</u>	<u>Sample Submitted</u>	<u>Where Taken</u>	<u>Contamination</u>
22	U	10/15- 22/74	10/22/74	Home	High
23	U	10/31/74	10/31/74	Home	High
24	U	10/31/74	11/8/74(**)	Work	Low
25	U	11/5/74	11/5/74	Home	High
26	F	11/6/74	11/7/74	Home	Very high
27	U	11/5- 7/74	11/7/74	Home	Very high
28	U	11/7/74	11/8/74	Work	Low

(\*) - U denotes urine, F denotes fecal

(\*\*) - Sample was stored in a locker between October 31, 1974, and November 8, 1974, when submitted.

[ ] stated that the AEC had concluded that something had been added to samples 22, 23, 25 and 27 between the time they were taken and the time they were analyzed to contaminate them. He said that he feels that somebody wanted to get SILKWOOD removed from the laboratory area, a hot area, to stop her from securing documentation to support her allegations concerning the falsification of quality control data.

[ ] stated he feels someone deliberately salted samples 22, 23, 25 and 27, in the attempt to get her removed from the laboratory knowing that if SILKWOOD's samples showed she was contaminated the company would remove her from the laboratory, a hot area, and place her in a cool section of the plant. By being removed from the laboratory, SILKWOOD

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no longer would be in a position to obtain the documentation she needed, according to [redacted].

[redacted] stated that Kerr-McGee ordinarily sends samples to be tested to the United States Testing Laboratory, Hanford, Washington, and there is usually about a 30 day delay before the results of the tests are made known to Kerr-McGee. According to [redacted] samples 22, 23 and 25 were sent to the United States Testing Laboratory and the results had not been returned to Kerr-McGee at the time of SILKWOOD's death.

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[redacted] stated that samples 24, 26 and 27 were analyzed by Kerr-McGee after SILKWOOD was found to be contaminated on November 5, 1974.

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[redacted] stated that he believes that someone, realizing that SILKWOOD had to be removed from the laboratory and due to the delay in the results of the analysis of samples 22, 23 and 25 not having been returned, decided to contaminate SILKWOOD's apartment and food.

[redacted] pointed out that fecal samples were taken from SILKWOOD and [redacted] at Los Alamos, New Mexico, on November 11, 1974. He stated that SILKWOOD's sample showed a high rate of contamination while [redacted] was fairly high, although both of them had been removed from their apartment on November 7, 1974.

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[redacted] stated that inasmuch as the OCAW suspected foul play in SILKWOOD's accident and death, it decided to hire [redacted] of Accident Reconstruction Lab, Dallas, Texas, to investigate the accident. [redacted] investigation concluded that SILKWOOD's car was struck from the rear by another vehicle, causing SILKWOOD's car to go out of control. [redacted] then engaged the services of [redacted] a former professor at the University of Oklahoma, and now a structural engineer in Dallas, Texas, who specializes in vehicle accident analysis. [redacted] stated that [redacted] findings supported the findings of [redacted]. He stated that on December 18, 1974, [redacted] submitted his and [redacted] report to the FBI office in Dallas, Texas, and also sent copies of the reports to the OHP.

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[ ] stated that the OHP contends that the dents in the left rear fender of SILKWOOD's car were caused when it was being removed from the culvert. It was [ ] feeling that if this was so there would be concrete fragments in the dents. Therefore, [ ] with the approval of the OCAW, engaged the services of Dr. GERALD U. GREENE, Socorro, New Mexico, a former professor of metallurgy at Fenn College and the New Mexico School of Mines. Dr. GREENE, retired since 1961, does consulting work as a metallurgist. Based on Dr. GREENE's report, [ ], with the approval of the OCAW, engaged the services of ERNEST L. MARTIN, a consulting chemist with the firm of Martin and Carlisle Chemical Laboratory, Inc., 715 San Mateo Boulevard, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico. Copies of GREENE's and MARTIN's reports are set forth below:

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Dr. Gerald U. Greene  
CONSULTANT  
P. O. Box 681 - Phone (505) 835-1233  
SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO 87801

## RESUME

D.O.B. June 19, 1896  
B.S. New Mexico School of Mines 1923  
General Science  
M.S. University of Utah 1924  
Metallurgical Engineering  
D.S.C. (Doctor of Science), Harvard University 1934  
Metallurgical Engineering  
1936-1949 Taught at Fenn College  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Metallurgy and Chemical Engineering  
1949-1961 Taught at New Mexico school of Mines  
Metallurgy  
1961 to present - Retired and doing consultant work to  
Insurance Industry, legal profession and  
mining industry as a Metallurgist.

Dr. Gerald U. Greene  
CONSULTANT  
P. O. Box 681 -1- Phone (505) 885-1238  
SUCOMINO, NEW MEXICO 87801

January 20, 1975

[REDACTED]  
Accident Reconstruction Lab  
1710 Boll St.  
Dallas, Texas 75201

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Re: Karen Silkwood  
D/A: 11-13-74

Dear Sir:

On January 17, 1975 I made a metallurgical examination on the rear bumper and a portion of the left rear fender reported to have belonged to the 1973 Honda Civic automobile driven by Karen Silkwood.

The examination was megascopic and was conducted in your presence after having reviewed your report and photographs.

A small dent on the lower left-hand corner of the bumper was examined very carefully. It is my opinion that this dent was not made by the concrete wing wall during removal of the car by the wrecker. The force lines were from rear to front of the automobile. If concrete had made this dent there would have been particles embedded in the force lines or scratches.

The portion of the left rear fender contained a medium size concave dent. The force lines in this dent were also from rear to front. There was no concrete embedded in these lines or scratches. However there did appear to be rubber smudges in some of these force lines. A chemical analysis would confirm this. This dent could not have been made by the concrete wing wall during removal by the wrecker.

Very truly yours,

Gerald U. Greene

ERNEST L. MARTIN

CONSULTING CHEMIST



Certificate No. 355

Martin and Carlisle Chemical Laboratory, Inc.  
715 San Mateo Boulevard, N. E.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Telephone: (505) AM 8-5461

4238 North 31st Place  
Phoenix, Arizona

Telephone: (602) 265-6184

B.S. New Mexico State Teachers' College 1928

M.A. Indiana University 1930

Ph.D. Indiana University 1946

Technical Societies — American Chemical Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science, New Mexico Academy of Science, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Sigma Xi, Alpha Chi Sigma.

Listed in — American Men of Science, Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in the West.

Previous Experience — Professor of Analytical Chemistry at the University of New Mexico, and consultant chemist. Former consultant to the Director of Transportation, New Mexico State Department of Education. Director of the Northwest New Mexico Regional Science Fair. Research on analytical procedures; consultation on properties of gases and causes of gas explosions; analytical methods to determine product failure. Consultation with lawyers on problems involving science.

Publications and Patents — Over forty publications in science including Laboratory Manual and Problem book in Analytical Chemistry. Research and articles in electrochemistry. Analytical studies of vanadium, analytical procedures for the determination of various metals, analytical procedures for the determination of cystine and cysteine, narcotics, and barbiturates. Studies of methods of detection of gases and movement of gases through soils, concrete and other materials.

Staff — Graduate chemical engineer as full time manager of the laboratory and graduate students.

Laboratory Facilities — Complete analytical laboratory with modern instruments. Program set up to handle research and consultation in the field of chemistry.

Scope of Activities — Specializing in gas explosions, arson, poisons, chemical research, consultation and court testimony, product failure.



# MARTIN AND CARLISLE CHEMICAL LABORATORY, INC.

715 SAN MATEO BLVD. NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108  
PHONE 268-5461

January 18, 1973  
L-7000

## EXAMINATION OF AUTOMOBILE BUMPER

To:   
Accident Reconstruction Lab.  
1710 Boll St.  
Dallas, Texas 75201

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### EXAMINATION:

A rear bumper reported to be from the 1973 Jonda Civic automobile belonging to Karen Silwood, was examined microscopic procedure to check a dent on the bumper. The indentation was approximately 3 1/4 inches from the left end.

The microscopic examination of the marks on the bumper showed sharp striation marks in the lower chrome plate. The marks were at an angle and had been made by contact a metal object. As a result of the impact a slight indentation had been made in the center of the damaged area.

There was no evidence of any foreign material and the dent was result of contact between two metal surfaces.

By: 

E. L. Martin

[ ] stated that Dr. MARTIN is presently analyzing the rubber smudges on the left rear fender and as soon as the results of the examination are furnished to the OCAW, they will be made available to the FBI. He said that copies of GREENE's and MARTIN's reports are also being furnished to the OHP. [ ] stated that the assumption is, based on GREENE's and MARTIN's reports, that the bumper of the automobile which struck SILKWOOD's car had a protective rubber covering over its bumper. b6 b7C

[ ] stated that the bumper and left rear fender of SILKWOOD's car are in [ ] possession and will be made available to the FBI or OHP for examination. He said the OHP has not once examined the bumper or fender after [ ] and [ ] reports were furnished to the Patrol, although they discredit the reports. He said that the press has reported the OHP could not find the automobile for re-examination, but to his knowledge they have never asked to see the automobile. b6 b7C

[ ] stated that [ ] had told him that SILKWOOD appeared fatigued but alert at the union meeting on the night of November 13, 1974. [ ] stated he is aware that methaqualone had been found in SILKWOOD's blood and that everyone assumed that SILKWOOD's accident was the result of drowsiness. He stated, however, that some pathologists feel the level of methaqualone in SILKWOOD's blood could have been the result of a pill she took the previous day and that the level of the drug in her blood was not even at a therapeutic level and was insufficient to cause drowsiness. WODKA stated he feels it was highly unlikely that SILKWOOD would have taken any drug on November 13, 1974, knowing she had to attend union negotiating meetings all day and then meet him that evening which would keep her up late.

[ ] stated that he also wanted to mention three threatening telephone calls that have been brought to his attention relating to the SILKWOOD matter.

The first call was received by [ ] at her home in [ ] on January 14, 1975. The caller asked [ ] if she knew where her husband was and what she was wearing. This phone call was reported to the police who stated it fit a pattern of phone calls received by women recently in the [ ] area. b6 b7C

WFO 159-369

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The second call was received on January 18, 1975, by [redacted], employed by National Public Radio, WDC. [redacted] has been doing feature stories on the SILKWOOD case and was in Oklahoma in late December, 1974, gathering information. The caller is reported to have told [redacted] "to get off the Kerr-McGee case or else."

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The third call was received on January 20, 1975, by [redacted], a Kerr-McGee employee. The caller threatened to kill [redacted] boy friend in New Jersey. [redacted] an OCAW member and who is mentioned elsewhere in this report, told [redacted] that very few people even know she has a boy friend in New Jersey, but the caller even knew his name.

[redacted] made available the tape recording and documents which [redacted] Legislative Director, OCAW, offered to make available in his telegram dated November 19, 1974, to Attorney General [redacted]. [redacted] stated that all the material pertained to the matter of quality control at the Kerr-McGee facility and copies of the tape and documents had been made available on November 21, 1974, to [redacted] Division of Inspection, AEC, Germantown, Maryland.

b6  
b7C

[redacted] stated the tape had been compiled from a recorded conversation with [redacted] OCAW member, when he was in WDC in September, 1974, from a recorded telephone conversation with SILKWOOD and from recorded telephone conversations on November 17, 1974, with [redacted] and [redacted] OCAW members.

[redacted] stated that the document, identified in the upper right corner as I-A, was received from [redacted] in September, 1974, and pertains to the plutonium rod photographs which had allegedly been retouched. The documents identified as II-A through II-F are copies of pages from several small notebooks which SILKWOOD gave him on November 8, 1974, while he was in Oklahoma. Copies of the documents identified as I-A and II-A through II-F are set forth below:

b6  
b7C

177 E 12 B1 ✓

182 E 22 B1 ✓

175 E 12 B2

197 E 34 F2

198 E 22 B2

198 E 12 B1

208 E 12 B1

206 E 22 B2

256 E 12 B2

259 E 12 B2

259 E 22 B1 *Check  
later 153 Pub*

265 E 22 B2

265 E 22 B1

269 E 22 B2



II-A

Still passing all welds  
no matter what pictures look!  
Met into qualifying new  
welders. Will equalizing  
[redacted] + R Silwood for  
a East starting from  
scratch. [redacted] said  
procedures. SAYS start over.  
[redacted] [redacted]  
[redacted] all say of reference  
if they will get verbal ok.  
No mention of NUMEC  
shut down. Production  
speed up blamed on  
furnace down. But  
either due to Dumas or  
still fear. Telling every  
one of meeting.

b6  
b7c

Oct 1, 1974

While storing materials I  
overheard the other analysts,  
supervisors, & HP sup ask  
why no one summoned  
help & where were all  
his techs. I told him!

399 E 22 (B)

3 porosities visible in weld

p  
raised

Oct 2, 1974

3 X 74

## Union Meeting

- ① Rm 124 201 50kg  
Has frequent over  
today lost 13-7kg  
barrels stacked on top  
of each other. 201  
limits in wet end  
after extended.  
In line field.  
Many employees  
told by Co - "Do  
not talk to AEC  
or Westinghouse Reps.  
or else. Div down  
HP's on procedures  
Under Staffed.

John ~~over~~ running from lab to lab as if many orders to take care of.

For last week specifically; due to my shifts; I have noticed respirators being cleaned & routine nightly check of lab slot boxes & other violations of regulations being written up.

QC — Halide on pellets run this PM by [redacted] &

b6  
b7C

# for all 5 weld. 70, 98, 68, 64, 63, not decreasing craft as should be. [redacted] said.

b6  
b7C

Turn this into [redacted], he will change & make a graft to fit so they would pass. Analyst looked at me & said he had given up on getting good #s, No one would accept them.

Oct 18, 1974

449E22

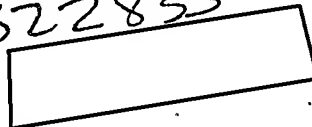
OC

- 2 VOIDS ON

WEID 100X

29 ~~X~~ 74

2622835



b6

b7C

4E

Also talked to some  
men at the QA + QC  
inspection table. Pellets  
that are being loaded  
now to ships in the  
past are put on the  
highest speed by the  
supervisor + the  
employee is told to look  
through a magnification  
lamp light + check them.  
The pellets are moving  
past at a speed of  
about 1 per 5 sec  
on the roll mic. +  
they say there is no  
way that they can  
evaluate these pellets.

Nov 5, 1974

II-F

Possibly this is the  
reason that so many  
of our pellets are  
being returned by  
Stanford for which  
spots - bad pins -  
out of spec, etc.

Nov 5, 1974

Kps

Also J. Davis  
said we are not up  
to par in bathroom  
facilities. (Garns).



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 2/5/751

[redacted] Oil,  
Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (CAW),  
1126 16th Street, N.W., furnished the following information:

b6  
b7C

The only time he has ever met KAREN SILKWOOD was on September 26, 1974, and again briefly on September 27, 1974, while she was in Washington, D.C. (WDC), to present a complaint to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) about the health and safety problems for employees of the Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma. All the information he has concerning SILKWOOD's death is based on information developed by and furnished to him by his assistant, [redacted] and from the reports of consultants the CAW hired to investigate the accident.

b6  
b7C

At first he was very skeptical that SILKWOOD's death was anything other than an accident but now, based on information developed by [redacted] and the engineering reports of the consultants hired by the CAW, he is convinced that she was killed. He is not alleging that someone set out to deliberately kill SILKWOOD but someone may have tried to "shake her up" and SILKWOOD's hitting the concrete culvert was unforeseen.

The CAW at Kerr-McGee's facility is a weak union and SILKWOOD undoubtedly was well aware that her efforts to report on the health and safety standards and the falsification of quality control data at the facility would incur the wrath of the company resulting in her dismissal at a future date. In talking about the health and safety standards and the falsification of records one was talking about a lot of money. He can even conceive of SILKWOOD contaminating her apartment with a minute amount of plutonium to help prove her point but he feels it is sheer "baloney" that SILKWOOD would contaminate her refrigerator and food therein with plutonium, which she knew was deadly toxic, and then eat the contaminated food.

The CAW felt morally responsible to pursue SILKWOOD's allegations after she had reported the falsification of documents and after her death the union felt it had to hire consultants to make an independent study of the accident in view of the possibility of foul play.

Interviewed on 1/28/75 at Washington, D.C. File # WFO 159-369

by SA [redacted] b6  
b7C Date dictated 2/3/75

22\*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>OKLAHOMA CITY</b>	DATE <b>2/12/75</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>1/23/75</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>UNSUBS; KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)</b>		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY <b>abp</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>LMRDA; OOJ</b>	b6 b7C

## REFERENCES:

Oklahoma City report of SA [REDACTED] 1/21/75.  
Baltimore letter to Oklahoma City, 1/23/75.

b6  
b7C

- P -

## ENCLOSURES:

TO BUREAU:

Deleted Copy Sent [REDACTED]  
by Letter Dated 5-21-76 [REDACTED]  
Per FOIPA Request [REDACTED]

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are three (3) copies of Atomic Energy Commission Report dated 12/19/74 regarding the Kerr-McGee, Nuclear Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma - Alleged Falsification of Quality Assurance Records.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- (6) - Bureau (Enc. 3) (159-4005)  
1 - USA, Oklahoma City (Enc. 1)  
1 - WFO (Info) (159-369)  
2 - Oklahoma City (159-45)

5 FEB 18 1975

REC 98

SI-111

## Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Notations

Agency	<b>1cc ROM CRIM. DIV</b>
Request Recd.	
Date Fwd.	<b>2/21/75 after [REDACTED]</b>
How Fwd.	<b>Hand Delivered</b>

b6  
b7C

OVER PAGE



106 EOM CHIEF OF POLICE

FEB 28 12 28 PM '75

FEB 21 1975

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED  
INTELLIGENCE DIV.

155

OC 159-45

ADMINISTRATIVE:

It is noted that the enclosed Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) report contains information relative to a separate criminal violation of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA). This possible violation has been mentioned in brief in previous reports and communications submitted by the Oklahoma City Division. The enclosure sets forth the first detailed information Oklahoma City has received in this regard.

Oklahoma City is conducting no active investigation relative to the allegation but is awaiting receipt of Bureau instructions concerning Department's attitude re this particular aspect of the SILKWOOD case.

Oklahoma City furnished the Bureau three copies of referenced report. Thereafter, Oklahoma City was informed by the Bureau to submit three additional copies of all future reports or communications prepared for dissemination. Accordingly, Oklahoma City is furnishing six copies of this report to the Bureau. Only three copies of enclosure being furnished to the Bureau inasmuch as the material was obtained from AEC, therefore, dissemination to the Energy Research and Development Administration and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not warranted.

LEADS:

WFO

Information copy furnished to WFO in view of outstanding investigation in that division.

OKLAHOMA CITY

AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA. Will recontact USA, WFO upon receipt of outstanding investigation conducted at WFO.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Oklahoma City

b6  
b7C

Report of:

Office: Oklahoma City

Date:

12/12/75

Field Office File #:

159-45

Bureau File #: 159-4005

Title:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)

Character:

LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE  
ACT OF 1959; OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] Inspection Division,  
Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), made available a copy of  
AEC report dated 12/19/74 regarding Kerr-McGee Nuclear  
Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma - Alleged  
Falsification of Quality Assurance Records.

b6  
b7C

- P -

## ENCLOSURE:

To USA, Oklahoma City:

Enclosed one copy of Atomic Energy Commission Report  
dated December 19, 1974 regarding the Kerr-McGee Nuclear  
Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma - Alleged  
Falsification of Quality Assurance Records.

## Details:

On January 23, 1975, the Baltimore Division of  
the FBI advised that [REDACTED]  
Inspection Division, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC),  
Germantown, Maryland, made available a copy of an AEC  
Report dated December 19, 1974 regarding the Kerr-McGee,  
Nuclear Division, Cimarron Facility, Crescent, Oklahoma -  
Alleged Falsification of Quality Assurance Records.

b6  
b7C

-1\*-

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE OKLAHOMA CITY	OFFICE OF ORIGIN OKLAHOMA CITY	DATE 2/18/75	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/28 - 2/11/75
TITLE OF CASE <u>CHANGED</u> UNSUBS; KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED), aka Karen Gay Silkwood		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
		TYPED BY jlw	
CHARACTER OF CASE  LMRDA; OOJ			

Title changed to include middle name of KAREN GAY SILKWOOD.

REFERENCES: Oklahoma City report of SA [REDACTED] dated 1/21/75.  
WFO report of SA [REDACTED] dated 2/5/75.  
Bureau telephone call to Oklahoma City, 2/10/75.

b6  
b7C

ENCLOSURES

TO THE BUREAU

- P - Deleted Copy Sent [REDACTED]

by Letter Dated 3-10-76, 5-10-76, 8-10-76  
Per FOIPA Request [REDACTED]

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are six copies of letter dated 1/20/75 to members of the OCAW Union at the Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE

b6  
b7C

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [REDACTED]						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
ENCLOSURE						159-4005-19	
6 - Bureau (159-4005) (Enc. - 6) 2 - USA, Oklahoma City (Enc. - 1) 2 - WFO (159-369) 2 - Oklahoma City (159-45)						14 FEB 24 1975	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						EX-101	
Agency	1cc ROM CRIM. DIV					Notations	
Best Recd.						SIX	
1st Fwd.	2/26/75					DATA PROC	
2nd Fwd.	OCD [REDACTED]						
3rd Fwd.	57M [REDACTED]						

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DIA

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F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DIVISION

212

FEB 27 11 00 AM 1975

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INTELLIGENCE DIV.

7/57

OC 159-45

Referenced WFO report enclosed three items to Oklahoma City (none of which were furnished to the Bureau) as follows:

1) Tape of conversations furnished by [redacted] and referred to in WFO report;

2) One copy of hearings before the Subcommittee on Research, Development and Radiation of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy; and

3) One copy of letter dated 1/20/75 to members of the OCAW Union at Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation from [redacted] and [redacted]

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b7C

Oklahoma City is disseminating only Item 3 enclosed by WFO in referenced WFO report. It is noted that the tape furnished by [redacted] had previously been made available by [redacted] on 11/21/74 to [redacted] Assistant Director, Division of Inspection, AEC, Germantown, Maryland. This tape is germane to captioned case, but pertains to the quality control investigation conducted by AEC at the Kerr McGee Cimarron Facility. The FBI at present does not have an ongoing investigation relative to this particular aspect of the SILKWOOD case.

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Item 2 enclosed by WFO pertains to a 1967 hearing in which [redacted] testified and his testimony has no relevance to captioned matter; therefore, it is not being disseminated.

This report contains, as requested by the Bureau, further details from the Chief Medical Examiner, [redacted] M.D., Oklahoma City, of the Board of Medicolegal Investigations regarding the effect of methaqualone on SILKWOOD at the time of her death.

WFO is maintaining captioned case in a pending status based on lead to maintain contact with [redacted] OCAW, to obtain a copy of the report of [redacted] pertaining to the rubber smudge on SILKWOOD's car. [redacted] also has indicated that he would make available to the FBI the rear bumper and fender portion of SILKWOOD's car, which have been examined by several experts retained by OCAW.

b6  
b7C

OC 159-45 ▲

The Bureau has previously instructed that six copies of all LIEMs and reports in this matter be furnished to the Bureau.

LEADS

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. Will, UACB, upon recontact with [ ] in the event that he offers to the FBI the bumper and fender from SILKWOOD's car for FBI Laboratory examination, advise [ ] the FBI will be unable to accept these items inasmuch as they had previously been examined by several non-FBI experts.

b6  
b7c

OKLAHOMA CITY

AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA. Will recontact USA, WDO, upon receipt of outstanding investigation from WFO.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 2 - USA, Oklahoma City

Report of: [REDACTED]

b6

b7C Office: OKLAHOMA CITY

Date: 2/18/75

Field Office File #: 159-45

Bureau File #: 159-4005

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)Character: LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT  
OF 1959; OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

## Synopsis:

A. J. CHAPMAN, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Board of Medicolegal Investigations, advised methaqualone is hypnotic, sleep inducing drug and the amount of this drug found in the system of KAREN G. SILKWOOD subsequent to her death would indicate that she was under the influence of the drug at the time of her death, and was drowsy or sleepy.

- P -

ENCLOSURE:

TO USA

Enclosed herewith is one copy of letter dated 1/20/75 to members of the OCAW Union at the Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

Details:



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 2/14/75

A. J. CHAPMAN, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Board of Medicolegal Investigations, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, furnished the following information:

In regard to the autopsy performed on KAREN GAY SILKWOOD, his office has previously furnished to the FBI and many other interested agencies or persons, an extensive report concerning the autopsy. As set out in this report, laboratory analysis of blood gastric contents and etc., indicated that found within the blood of Miss SILKWOOD was methaqualone in the amount of 0.35 milligrams (ml.)/100 ml. The average therapeutic amount is considered to be 0.20 ml./100 ml. and the average toxic amount is considered to be 0.50 ml./100 ml.

The amounts given above are averages and there have been numerous instances of persons dying from an overdose with less than 0.50 ml./100 ml. methaqualone in their blood at the time of death. Variables such as the deceased's physical condition and constitution at the time of death are all factors that have to be considered.

The drug methaqualone is a hypnotic drug which is prescribed as a sleeping pill. SILKWOOD's doctor, [REDACTED], M.D., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, did prescribe to Miss SILKWOOD methaqualone in the amount of 30 tablets of 300 ml. qualude (methaqualone). This drug was prescribed to SILKWOOD to assist her in sleeping with instructions that the drug be taken upon retiring.

b6  
b7C

The drug definitely is a sleeping pill and this fact should have been definitely understood by SILKWOOD inasmuch as it was prescribed to her by her physician. It is evident that one should not operate machinery, drive an automobile or etc., after ingesting the drug and such instructions are usually so stated when the drug is prescribed.

If SILKWOOD was using the sleeping pill as a "downer" this would most clearly be an abuse of the drug.

Interviewed on 2/11/75 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 159-45

by SA [REDACTED] b6 Date dictated 2/12/75  
b7C

It is noted that methaqualone was also found in her liver in the amount of 1.08 ml./100 ml. and in her gastric (stomach) contents, there was 49.53 ml. of methaqualone (undissolved) present in the total gastric specimen received. This would indicate that SILKWOOD had sometime shortly prior to her death ingested methaqualone which would have continued to have entered into her system had she not died.

The effect of the methaqualone on SILKWOOD would be to induce drowsiness and to make her sleep. From the distribution of methaqualone in her system, it would be evident that she was under the influence of the drug at the time of her death.

There was a trace of ethyl alcohol (less than 0.02% w/v) in SILKWOOD's blood at the time of her death. It is rather doubtful that this minor amount of alcohol in her system would have had any magnifying effect on the methaqualone influence.

In his opinion, based on the autopsy findings, SILKWOOD at the time of her death was under the influence of the drug methaqualone and that the drug was working on her system at that time in the desired fashion; that is, the drug was inducing sleep on the person of SILKWOOD.

OC 159-45

[redacted] On January 28, 1975, [redacted]  
[redacted] Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International  
Union (OCAW), Washington, D. C., made available a copy of  
a letter dated January 20, 1975, to the members of the OCAW  
Union at the Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation in Crescent,  
Oklahoma, from [redacted] and [redacted]

b6  
b7c

UNITED STATES

MENT

# Memorandum

Mr. Gebhardt

DATE: 2/14/75

FROM : R. E. Long

SUBJECT: KAREN G. SILKWOOD (DECEASED)  
LMRDA; OOJ

b6  
b7C

- 1- Mr. Gebhardt
- 1- Mr. Long
- 1- Mr. Moore
- 1- Mr. Wannall
- (Attention [redacted])
- 1- [redacted]
- (Attention Legal Analysis Office)
- 1- [redacted]

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

This is to advise of the status of the ongoing LMRDA; OOJ investigation being conducted by our Oklahoma City office wherein [captioned individual, a former employee at the Kerr McGee Corporation (KMC), manufacturers of plutonium at Crescent, Oklahoma, and a member of the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW) was killed in a one car accident on 11/13/74. Since this individual was reportedly engaged in union business at the time of her death and was a witness in a pending investigation before the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice requested a preliminary investigation be conducted by the FBI. This investigation was to determine if violations of Section 530, Title 29, USC (through the impairment of Silkwood's rights guaranteed by Section 411, Title 29, USC) and Section 1505, Title 18, USC (in that Silkwood was a witness in a pending investigation before AEC) existed.

b6  
b7C

This investigation continued to receive widespread publicity due primarily to allegations by officials of OCAW, who claim the results of an investigation conducted by an independent accident investigator, hired by the union, suggested that Silkwood's automobile was hit from behind by another vehicle causing her to run off the road resulting in her death. This accident, which occurred at 7:30 p.m., on 11/13/74, approximately seven miles south of Crescent, Oklahoma, was investigated by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), whose official report revealed no indication of foul play. A critical analysis of the report prepared by this independent investigator was made by the OHP and they thereafter advised this report does not alter the official conclusion that there was no evidence of foul play connected with Silkwood's accident. Investigation by the FBI to date has developed no information indicating the death of Silkwood was other than accidental.

REC-50

157-4005-20

FEB 19 1975

ELR:maw (7)

CONTINUED - OVER

57 MAR 4 1975

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter Dated 5-15-75  
Per FOIPA Request

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 6030 J.E.H.

FEB 20 10 42 AM '75  
FEB 18 5 41 PM '75

F. B. I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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FEB 14 2 35 PM '75

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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Long to Gebhardt Memo

An autopsy which was performed on Silkwood indicated the cause of her death to be multiple injuries and that she was under the influence of a hypnotic drug (methaqualone), at the time of her death. A trace of ethyl alcohol was also found in her system. This drug had been prescribed by her physician on 10/25/74, to assist her in sleeping and was to be taken upon retiring.

Investigation by the Oklahoma City office concerning the activities of Silkwood on 11/13/74, prior to the time of her death, revealed she had been involved in union-company negotiations, met with AEC representatives, and later that day attended a union meeting at Crescent. Two union members offered to drive her home from this meeting, since they felt she was under a severe emotional strain as a result of her union activities and having been involved in a contamination incident at KMC. Silkwood turned this offer down and left the meeting shortly after 7 p.m. and was involved in the fatal accident at 7:30. J

The contamination incident referred to above allegedly occurred at the KMC on 11/5/74. Silkwood was sent to AEC at Los Alamos, New Mexico, for examination on 11/10-12/74. Investigation conducted by the AEC revealed that Silkwood was "probably" not contaminated in an accident or incident at KMC. There were indications that sometime after she had been tested in New Mexico and before the tests were analyzed, plutonium was added to her urine samples. By whom and how the plutonium was added was not known.

Allegations have also been made by the union that KMC was in violation of AEC health safety standards, that quality control documents regarding plutonium fuel rods fabricated at the KMC facility had been altered and that enriched uranium fuel pellets had been scattered around the plant grounds at KMC facility.

CONTINUED - OVER

Long to Gebhardt Memo

These matters have been investigated and reported by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and this information, as well as all information in possession of the FBI concerning captioned investigation, has been disseminated to the Internal Security Section of the Department. To date no request has been received from the Department for the FBI to conduct an AEC investigation.

The results of the investigation conducted to date relative to requested LMRDA; OOJ matters have been furnished to the Management and Labor Section, Criminal Division of the Department; as have all inquiries from the press.

On 2/12/75, Silkwood's former physician informed the Oklahoma City office that he had been contacted by representatives of the press and has been led to believe that the possibility exists the Silkwood incident would be made into a special for the CBS program *60 Minutes*. The Security Manager for KMC has also advised that he has heard a rumor to the effect that ABC intends to use the Silkwood case as a special on the *Reasoner Report*. These individuals were unable to furnish any information as to the date of those telecasts.

Our preliminary investigation in this <sup>OKLA.</sup> matter has been completed with the exception of the receipt of a report concerning the above accident from Stephen ~~Wadka~~, Legislative Assistant, OCAW. Mr. Wadka has advised this report is in preparation and he desires to furnish it to the FBI upon completion. WFO is following this matter closely.

ACTION: For information

ELR CMW  
ref N  
JAB  
50324  
020  
REG 1/10